

# QUEST



## Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter

*St. Augustine Beach, Florida*

**January 2014**

**Fellowship meetings are held Sundays at 10:30 a.m.**

**A program for youth, birth through eighteen, is provided at 10:30.**

**2487 A1A South, 3/4 miles south of State Road 312**

**Refreshments are served after the service so all may socialize.**

Audio transcripts of most presentations are available on the website [www.uufsa.org](http://www.uufsa.org)

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The Quest is published monthly from September through July.

**Materials for inclusion in the February issue are due by January 24.**

Don Brandes, Editor e-mail: [donaldbrandes@gmail.com](mailto:donaldbrandes@gmail.com)

**Sunday, January 5, 10:30 a.m.**

**“Hey Jude: Hospitality  
as a Spiritual Project”**



**Rev. Jack Ford**

Did you know that Jude is the patron saint of lost causes? This fact has made a difference in the lives of thousands. People react to difficult circumstances in a wide variety of ways. Our Southeast Regional UU Director, Rev. Ken Hurto, says, "How you conduct yourself is far more important than your theology, philosophy or beliefs." But how we behave with others is determined by many factors: personality, upbringing, station in life. Where does hospitality fit in to all of this? Is kindness a moral attribute? Is it a sin to be mean? As my grandmother used to say, "Don't be ugly!"

*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, January 12, 10:30 a.m.**

**“Seeing Jesus of Nazareth  
Through Jewish Eyes”**

**Caren Goldman**



The stories in the New Testament Gospels are about a first century Jewish man known as Jesus, who never abandoned or rejected his Jewish roots before being crucified. Yet today, nearly 2000 years after Jesus of Nazareth died on a cross in Jerusalem, Christians and Jews differ on who they say he was and is. Sunday's topic will explore how Goldman, an award-winning author and practicing Jew married to an Episcopal priest, has come to see and write about this misunderstood Jew.

*Ms. Goldman, who grew up in a Conservative Jewish home in Brooklyn, NY, is the author of six books that focus on the intersections of healing, psycho-spirituality, and religion. In 2011, her book *Restoring Life's Missing Pieces: The Spiritual Power of Remembering and Reuniting With People, Places, Things and Self* (Skylight Paths) was named a "Best Spiritual Book" of that year. Her two experiential books about Jesus of Nazareth — *Discovering Jesus, Finding Self and Across the Threshold, Into the Questions* (Morehouse Publishing) have been highly endorsed by religious scholars, bestselling authors, and Jewish and Christian clergy. From 1995 until 2012, Ms. Goldman served as an associate editor and*

*St. Augustine author Caren Goldman's acclaimed books focus on the intersections of psycho-spirituality, healing, health and religion. In 2011,*

*(Continued on next page.)*

her book, *Restoring Life's Missing Pieces* (Sky Light Paths Publishing) was named a “Best Spiritual Book” of that year, and most recently her 2013 book *The Ultimate Guide to Breast Cancer: Your Essential Resource From Diagnosis to Treatment and Beyond* (Rodale) was reviewed and deemed an “excellent buy” by *Library Journal*.

As a practicing Jew, Ms. Goldman has also co-authored two experiential books about Jesus of Nazareth as a first century Jew (*Finding Jesus, Discovering Self and Across the Threshold, Into the Questions* [Morehouse Publishing]). Both books have been highly endorsed for their content and originality by John Shelby Spong, Walter Wink, Marcus Borg, Amy-Jill Levine and other renowned Jewish and Christian scholars, best-selling authors, and clergy.

Additionally, Ms. Goldman leads spiritual retreats and is a Bridgebuilder conflict resolution consultant to congregations and non-profit organizations. While living in Toledo, OH, she was adjunct faculty in the mass communications department at Bowling Green State University.

Ms. Goldman is a co-founder of the St. Augustine Initiative for Compassion, a grassroots movement behind the successful campaign to make St. Augustine the first official Compassionate City in Florida and 20th worldwide on Sept. 9, 2011. She is married to the Rev. Ted Voorhees, the vicar of St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church in Lincolnville.



**Sunday, January 19, 10:30 a.m.**

**“I Know You Are But What Am I?”**

**Part 3:**

**"Wisdom From the World's Religions"**



**Rev. Jack Ford**

The writer of the Tao te Ching says: “My words are easy to understand and perform, yet no one knows them or practices them.” Religions have a lot to say about life and behavior. Some religions contradict others, and all religions contradict themselves at one point or another. Where is the wisdom in all of this? How do we draw inspiration from the world's religions?

*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, January 26, 10:30 a.m.**

## **“Walking Deliberately Into Difference”**

**Dr Lucinda Allen Mosher**



In this presentation an ethicist who specializes in enabling positive interreligious relations describes her work and reflects on its theological foundations.

*A moral theologian in the Anglican tradition, Dr Lucinda Allen Mosher is Faculty Associate for Interfaith Studies at Hartford Seminary, where she directs the*

*Multifaith Chaplaincy Program, coordinates the annual Religious Diversity Leadership Workshop, and teaches courses on Christian-Muslim relations. Concurrently, she is Assistant Academic Director of the Building Bridges Seminar (an international Christian-Muslim dialogue of scholars founded in 2012). As a consultant, she takes on diverse projects in the US and abroad. An accomplished musician, Dr. Mosher’s workshops and lectures sometimes combine her expertise in interreligious understanding with her training in theology and the arts.*

*Dr. Mosher is the author of *Toward Our Mutual Flourishing: The Episcopal Church, Interreligious Relations, and Theologies of Religious Manyness* (Peter Lang, 2012); and the *Faith in the Neighborhood* series (Seabury Books). With David Marshall, she is co-editor of and contributor to Georgetown University Press publications, *Prayer: Christian and Muslim Perspectives* (2013) and *Death, Resurrection, and Human Destiny* (forthcoming 2014). In addition, she has contributed essays to many other books and journals. Dr. Mosher holds degrees from Boston University, University of Massachusetts (Lowell), Hartford Seminary, and the General Theological Seminary. She maintains offices in New York City; Hartford, Connecticut; and Doctors Inlet, Florida.*

## **Downstairs Dialog**



**Sunday, January 19**

Before Service: 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

## **“Lifetime Money Management”**

This month, we’ll address a topic that is personally relevant to each one of us. “Lifetime Money Management” (or “Personal Finance for Dummies”) will be an overview of the key elements of a personal financial plan, with time for Q & A. as we go along. It will be led by our own Charlie West, who has an MBA in marketing and PhD in management. You savvy personal planners who have all this stuff figured out need not attend, OR, please come, and share your knowledge!!



## Mid-year Congregation Meeting



**January 12, 12:00 – 1:00**  
After Service

Take written attendance; determine if Quorum is present

If Quorum is satisfied, call meeting to order

Chalice Lighting

Treasurer Update – Where we currently stand

### **AGENDA**

Strategic Planning Team Report

Budget Review and Workshop Results

Extension of Sunday Services to a full year

Volunteers for Refreshments (Assignments?)

Clean Energy Credits and Alternatives

Conclusion: Open Forum

Adjourn

## 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.

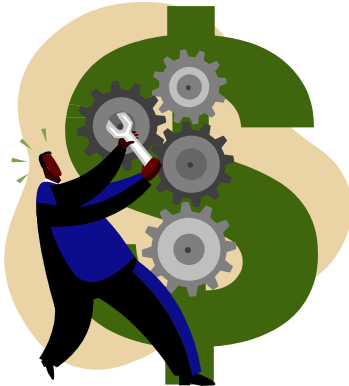
Group size is limited, so if you're interested, please sign up on the sheet on the Tom May table.

*Questions? Email [ruthweber@bellsouth.net](mailto:ruthweber@bellsouth.net) or [westjrcw@gmail.com](mailto:westjrcw@gmail.com)*



## UU Budget Workshop

Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> - after Potluck



The UU Finance Committee wishes to kick off the budget-planning season by opening up this process to everyone in the congregation.

We encourage board and committee members – and anyone interested in the programs and activities of the UU – to come to this meeting. We want to hear your ideas and opinions about how we fund our Fellowship.

We'll all put our heads together to begin to develop a budget that best serves the needs of our congregation while mirroring our willingness to match these needs with our contributions.

Mark your calendar today - Come share your ideas on January 26<sup>th</sup>

*Nick McAuliffe,  
Finance Committee Chair*

*Hey, don't miss it...*

UUFSA



# GAME DAY!

Tuesday, February 25

2 – 6 PM

**The Gallery Cafe**

*'Get your game on!'*

*Bring all of your favorites—Bridge,  
Cribbage, Backgammon, Dominoes,  
Checkers and more...*



**Donation of \$26 includes dinner**

Pre-paid reservations are required (non-refundable)  
Ticket sales begin January 12, after Sunday Service  
Snacks, wine, beer and dessert available for purchase

**THIS IS A PRIVATE EVENT**  
TheGalleryCafe, 1974 US-1 South  
(In the Staples plaza)  
*BOOK EARLY: Limited to 25 players!*



Contact: Janis May [tjmay7@bellsouth.net](mailto:tjmay7@bellsouth.net); Mary Kellough [kellough@comcast.net](mailto:kellough@comcast.net);  
or Jane Mahoney [jane3@aol.com](mailto:jane3@aol.com) for more information on this UUFSA Fundraiser

## Hospitality



A big thank you to all our December coffeemakers : Vanessa Friedman, Joyce Peterson, John and Megan Porter, Joanne Englebert and Gene Schepers, and especially Palmer Short, who often does the actual coffee making of coffee hour. I apologize if I missed any one. I'm kind of new at this.

We need to be especially grateful to Judy Weisberger, as well as Betty and Phil, for organizing and bringing to fruition a very lovely and plentiful Christmas dinner. A good time was had by all.

Please check the downstairs calendar by the kitchen door for more coffeemaking opportunities. Remember, with receipts, you can be reimbursed for your coffee hour expenses.

*Rita Golts*

## Green Team



The Green Team is still in need of a co-chair with Nana Royer. If you'd like to share, please contact Nana.

An, please remember to save your organic garbage for the Fellowship garden. Our 7th Principle Lives!

*Nana Royer*

## Afternoon Book Club



Okay, so you cannot make every book club meeting, however, if you have read a book on our list, you are welcome to join us the Tuesday that we discuss the book.

*Isobel Siegel*

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

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*



## St. Johns Food Pantry



Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers who have served at the SJEM Food Pantry during the last year and have covered my absence the past two months. They are; Jill and Lou Cerulli, Dave and Lee Ann Forrest, Lenny Genski, Uldis Golts, Pat Maguire, Cal Marshall, John Porter, Guy Reid, Nana Royer and Tim Smith.

The Food Pantry also very much appreciates the weekly food donations that YOU leave in the entryway basket, as well as the cash donations you have made. In November, 361 families, comprised of 542 adults and 308 children, took home much needed groceries from the pantry. It is so helpful when you remember those canned goods and peanut butter and jelly for the kids. Information about cash donations can be found at [www.stjohnsfoodpantry.org](http://www.stjohnsfoodpantry.org).

Wishing you all many blessings in 2014,  
*Cherie Dolgin*  
*UUFSA Food Pantry Coordinator*



## Dining with Dignity



Many thanks to our outstanding group of Dining with Dignity volunteers who prepared and served a wonderful meal to 89 needy people this past month. Spiral hams, macaroni & cheese, baked beans, cornbread, veggies, and an assortment of salads and takeaway items rounded out this nutritious meal. Special thanks to Joan Kramer and the RE children

for decorating and packaging up some delicious holiday cookies, too!

We would also like to welcome a few new members to our volunteer team; Claudia, Georgia, and Karen who joined us this month. Your contributions were amazing! Good job!

Our next food sharing opportunity is coming up on Sunday January 5th, so don't forget to add DwD to your 2014 calendars. We are thinking about spicing it up with "Mexican Menu" this month... turkey tacos, enchiladas, refried beans, rice, jalopeno cornbread, etc... Let us know if any of you have a recipe you'd like to share and we'll add it to the menu/sign-up sheet.

Thanks again for your help and hard work in making our food sharing events so successful! Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year to all!

*Lee Ann & Dave Forrest*





# Lifelong Learning for Youth

## What is Happening?



Volunteers in the classroom: In response to UUA and the UUFSa insurance guidelines, it is important to have two adults in both classrooms each Sunday morning. The lead teacher plans the lesson and organizes materials, but another person is needed to engage with the youth and support the activities.

Please consider volunteering occasionally, and many thanks to those of you who have already participated in the classes. We will be publicizing specific topics the youth will be working on so we can match volunteers with topics of interest.

It would be helpful to have a laptop computer with wireless capability and a flat screen TV (not too big) for our older class – there is so much on the internet that could help extend learning for our youth. If you or someone you know has one of these to donate, please let us know.

## Meeting

Everyone interested in discussing our UUFSa Youth Program is invited to join us for our next gathering at the home of Beverly Cree and Charlie West for lunch and discussion. We will consider how the youth program fits into the overall program of UUFSa, how to implement goals including transitioning to UUA curricula, planning Darwin Day, and incorporating the Compassion Project, a recent initiative of UUFSa.

Please let Beverly know if you are planning to participate so we know about how many to expect for lunch. Our home is about five miles south of UUFSa, just off A1A –please contact for specific directions: [bjcree@gmail.com](mailto:bjcree@gmail.com) or 904.471.0335.

## January Calendar



- 5 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 7 – Strategic Planning Team 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
- 8 – Caring Committee 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
- 7 – Amnesty International Potluck Dinner 6:00 – 9:30 p.m.
- 10 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 10 – MUUvie – 7:00 p.m.
- 12 – Mid-year Congregation Meeting
- 13 – Board Meeting 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- 15 – Program Committee 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- 15 – Building You Own Theology starts (Through March 19)
- 19 – Downstairs Dialogue 9:15 – 10:15
- 21 – Book Club 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- 24 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 26 – Potluck lunch after service
- 26 – Budget Workshop 12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

*For the most up-to-date calendar, always go to [uufsa.org](http://uufsa.org) and click on Events Calendar (left side)*

## MUUvies Films



### **Comedy Night at the UU** Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> 7pm

Featuring Charlie Chaplin in:

#### **“The Rink” 1916**

Chaplin is a waiter in a chaotic restaurant. After work he visits a roller skating rink where he meets a girl, Edna Purviance, but upsets plenty of others. She invites him to a skating party later – but can he win her heart whilst avoiding others?

#### **“The Immigrant” 1917**

Chaplin plays an immigrant on a ship bound for America. While on the ship, he helps a fellow immigrant, Edna Purviance, whose mother had been robbed. Chaplin meets Purviance later at a restaurant where they are spotted by an artist who hires them to be models. Chaplin uses the advance to buy a wedding license. “The Immigrant” is generally considered to be one of Chaplin's finest shorts.

## January Birthdays



8 Mary Kellough  
11 Patricia Moore  
12 Barbara Lynch  
13 Nena Vreeland  
17 Jerome Fosaaen  
28 Cal Marshall  
30 Pat Griffin

## January Anniversary

2 Beverly Cree & Charles W. West, Jr.

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



## **Beyond Our Congregation**

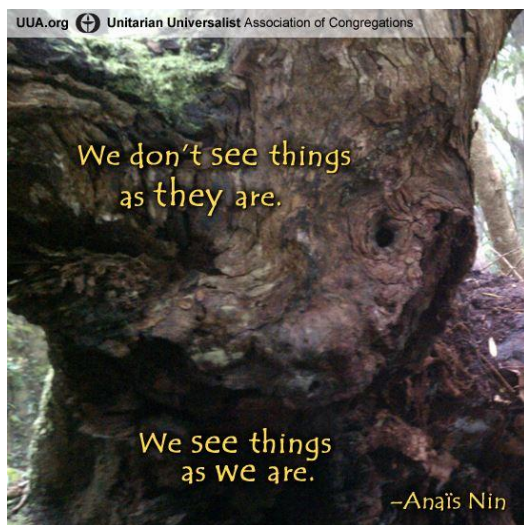
### **The Mountain Happenings**

### **May 19 – 24, 2014**

### **Appalachian Spring Program**

Plan now to join UUs from around the country to enjoy The Mountain. The program includes appreciation of nature and Native American traditions, 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 of others and the 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/calendar](http://www.mountaincenters.org/calendar). Group transportation can be arranged if there is interest. Please register soon – it will be a great way to get to know each other better while we enjoy a great program at a great place.



## **New Member**

### **Claudia Adkins**

In June, I retired, got married, and moved to St. Augustine from Deland. Looking back, I now realize that I must have been out of my mind to do all this at once, but I am happy and looking forward to this new chapter of my life.

I attended a Unitarian Church as a child and my parents started a U.U. fellowship in Ormond Beach in the 60's. I have always believed in the U.U. doctrine of individual freedom of belief, and in service to others.

I graduated from the University of Florida with a BA in Sociology and worked for ten years with developmentally disabled children and adults. I then earned my MA in Elementary Education and taught first grade at the same school for 25 years. I am certified to teach gifted students and Early Childhood, and I earned a National Board Certification in 2004. I also organized a "Green Club" for older students.

My husband, Bruce, is a retired commercial lobster fisherman from Maine. He has lived in St. Augustine for 30 years. We have a cat named Lucy. He insists that I would hate to live in Maine in the winter but it sounds exciting to me. Or maybe not....

I enjoy running, although my knees and feet won't allow me to run the way I used to. I work out 3-4 days a week at the gym. My greatest accomplishment since retirement is learning to knit. I hope someday to be able to make something besides scarves.

I look forward to learning more about the wonderful programs and activities of your fellowship.



## Backstage View from The President



December at the Fellowship is a busy time. In fact, December is an especially active time in most of our lives as we scurry around trying to buy that perfect gift, get those Holiday cards mailed, plan parties (Mary Kellough's was smashing by the way!), making those lists and checking them twice, tying up loose ends, etc. I have to remind myself

to remember to stop long enough to look around and appreciate the countless blessings in my life. And while they are nice to have, they do not begin and end with 'things'. Instead the members and friends of the Fellowship, extended family really, along with our families and loved ones, rank high up on that list. So I wish each and all a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Quanza, and that special holiday you celebrate this time of year. Certainly we can be grateful for the new Covenant brought to this old earth a little over two thousand years ago, and one we ascribe to in our seven principles, which simply stated come out in a profound piece of advice, "Love one another." I am going to try and follow that advice in 2014.

I was a guest at the Book Club December 17th. What a lively, focused group! If you are looking for mental stimulation, look no further. For details please contact Isabel Siegel at [isrich2@comcast.net](mailto:isrich2@comcast.net). This group is the ticket.

And speaking of groups, we are looking for you if you are interested in the evolution of our web site. Just send an e-mail to Cherie Dolgin at [cdolgin@bellsouth.net](mailto:cdolgin@bellsouth.net). There are some exciting developments under way in that group.

Or, perhaps your talents could be put to use by the Green Team. Nana Royer is the chair and we need a co-chair. Contact Nana at [nana@nrdp.net](mailto:nana@nrdp.net) for details.

If you are good at raising the green, Fund Raising is an orphan, as is Social Concerns. Time to step up and adopt! We also are looking for that special person who likes to play house and take over the Hospitality Group, and make that kitchen sparkle like Irene Klaw did when she chaired it. Just contact Rita Golts who is the temporary chair, [gorita@aol.com](mailto:gorita@aol.com). Thank you Rita, for stepping in when it is vital that we have someone manage that team.

So there you have it. But wait, there's more: a huge THANK YOU to our current team chairs for the often thankless jobs they perform with such dignity and grace.

Dave Perkins is a familiar name to all of us since he has served in multiple capacities over the years, including his current tenure as a UUFSA Trustee. Dave has just completed an exhaustive compilation of an Introduction to "Defining Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Policy". It is a 45 page document that goes where no one has taken the time and effort to go before. Kudos and a big thank you to Dave for this contribution. I think we can safely say he is one of our "Rock Stars"!

Finally, Nick McAuliffe will head a Budget Workshop scheduled January 26th. Let's all put that one on our calendars and attend. It will be conducted following our downstairs potluck. See you there.

See you around the Fellowship.

*Guy*