

QUEST



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter

St. Augustine Beach, Florida

April 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



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In This Issue

Sunday Program Topics	2 - 3
Events and Committees.....	4 - 7
MUUvie and DocUUmentary	8 - 9
Fellowship Calendar.....	10
Birthdays and Anniversaries	10
Beyond Our Congregation	10 - 11
From the President	12



The Quest is published monthly from September through July.

Materials for inclusion in the May issue are due by April 25.

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

Sunday, April 6, 10:30 a.m.

“Imagination”



Rev. Jack Ford

There are new directions afoot in the Unitarian Universalist Association. The Millennial Generation is upon us. Along with introducing our new logo, UU president Peter Morales has suggested that we need to redefine what it means to be a part of our faith movement. Thousands of young Americans were not brought up like many of our older UUs, do not hold the same ideas or values, do not share the same models of ‘church’ or community.

Today I appeal to your imagination as we explore the possibilities of our liberal faith. Your decisions and your actions in the weeks and months to come will help to shape religious values in St. Augustine. Is there a place for Unitarian Universalism here? Do you make a difference? In the words of the comic strip character, Pogo: “What we have here is an insurmountable opportunity.”

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, April 13, 10:30 a.m.

“PFLAG of Jacksonville”

(Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays)



Before moving to Jacksonville, Florida 26 years ago, Debbi worked as a nurse and developed a volunteer program for Capitol Hospice in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

After moving to Jacksonville in August of 1987, Debbi continued her career as Director of Volunteer Services for a local hospice.

In the early 1990’s Debbi became an activist, advocate and a nurse case manager for people who are HIV positive and living with AIDS. In 1994, Debbi established the only HIV/AIDS

Debbi Carter

Unit in a local nursing home to provide direct care to people who were diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. This program enabled many people who were shunned from their families to receive the care they deserved in the final days of their lives.

Before retiring in 2011, Debbi worked as an outreach nurse and case manager for the homeless with various organizations.

Debbi is the current President of PFLAG of Jacksonville, is Co-Chair of First Coast AIDS Prevention Planning Committee and volunteers as Director of Advocacy for Presbyterian Social Ministries with their Home Safe Program.

Debbi believes that trying to be a loving wife, mother and grandmother are her greatest challenges and accomplishments.

Sunday, April 20, 10:30 a.m.

“All Dressed Up and Nowhere To Go”



Rev. Jack Ford

It is Easter Sunday and here we are again, in a 'theological pickle'! Where does a Unitarian Universalist go on Easter? We take Flights of Fancy, Leaps of Faith. This season, I hope we can get in touch with hope and new beginnings, with the saving grace of Easter. What was the Easter message Jesus gave to his disciples?

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, April 27, 10:30 a.m.

**“Where Do We Come From?
Who Are We?
Where are We Going?”**



Mark Yount

The perennial human questions posed in Gauguin's great Tahitian painting don't fit the contours of modern philosophy, which is more adept at critique than discovery. While many today find philosophy and science don't satisfy their need for deeper meaning, Forest Church reminded us of what religion really is: "our human response to the dual reality of being alive and knowing we must die." Liberal religion opens

many vistas on how we might see our place in life's interdependent web. This week, let's look to a homespun spiritual source: the family photo album. You may be surprised how profound the view can be

Mark Yount taught Philosophy for 12 years at Trinity College (Hartford), Saint Joseph's University (Philadelphia) and Jacksonville University after earning degrees in Philosophy from The College of William and Mary (B.A.), Villanova (M.A.) and University of Colorado at Boulder (Ph.D.). He has given over 80 sermons at Buckman Bridge UU Church (Jacksonville) and served as YRUU/Beacon youth advisor for over a decade. Mark is writing a book titled Wisdom on the Way, and he recently began working with Empowerment First on start-up for peer-based neighborhood support services.

Great Decisions



"Political Changes in Turkey."

Monday April 7 at 7:00 p.m.

The article the discussion will be based on is available at <http://tr.im/529w5>.

The discussion will be presented by Charley West.

For more information, contact Jo McIntire at (904) 461 3175.

The meetings are open to the public.

Lifelong Learning Course

Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice and Sustainability

We live in an interconnected world. Each of us is part of a complex global system, and our daily actions—big or small—influence the system in both healthy and unhealthy ways. **Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice and Sustainability** helps participants recognize and respond to the interconnected systems of our world. Together, participants expand their people power and begin to make a real difference for good. The course begins April 23 and runs through May 28. Time to be determined by participants. The book is \$31. Please sign up on the Tom May table by April 13.

Downstairs Dialog



Sunday, April 20

Before Service: 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

What Do Unitarian Universalists Believe?

On this Easter Sunday, millions of devout Christians all over the world will celebrate their belief that Jesus Christ arose from death to life, and departed from his tomb. What do Unitarian Universalists make of this matter? What are our beliefs regarding other theological ideas? We early Sunday risers will discuss these questions downstairs at 9:15am. Our discussion will draw on three research studies of Unitarian Universalist beliefs, in 1967, 1987, and 1998, and compare and contrast them with our own current positions. Will we find convergence and consensus? Not likely!!

Come join us! Discussion will be led by Charlie West.



Green Team



The Green Team will be hosting the **Nonviolence Training for the Keystone XL Pipeline Pledge of Resistance** to be held in St.

Augustine on May 10, 9 am – 1:30

pm. This training will encompass an update on the campaign against the pipeline, how to engage in nonviolence and direct action, updates on legal tips for our area, and info on the history of nonviolent civil disobedience. If the Obama administration approves the KXL pipeline, a peaceful sit-in is planned on the grounds of the Castillo de San Marcos. There are roles for both people who are willing to risk arrest as well as for those who are not. We also need supporting roles.

If you would like to sign up, please contact Nana Royer (461-3541), Barbara Brenner (471-2099), or Mary Kellough (460-9406)

Hospitality

A big thank you to our coffee hour caretakers last month: Elle Barry, Priscilla Gulliver, Pat Moore, Ellen Lahey, Fred and Cherie Dolgin, Irene Klaw, and Ruth Weber. And especially the chief coffee brewer, Palmer Short.

We still need sign ups for our remaining months, starting with April 13th. Remember I can reimburse you for expenses up to \$20. if you give me a receipt.

Rita Golts



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:

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

Several years ago, an addition was put on the St. Johns Food Pantry. However, the original part of the pantry was not updated until recently. Two unemployed workers, staying at the St. Francis House, did a fantastic job of replacing the kitchen sink, counters, shelving, work table and flooring to match the addition. It is now a much more open, practical and beautiful space.

I will be working with our children in the LifeLong Learning program on Sunday, April 6th, to promote awareness of hunger and the work of the food pantry in our county. It would be greatly appreciated if **each of you** could bring in **one** of the following items **on or before April 6th**: canned fruit or vegetables, cereal, soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, juice, coffee, or tea. A box will be placed in the foyer when you come in the Fellowship for your goods. We will be using the items during class and then bagging them to take to the pantry.

Also, we want to extend a big thank you to Tim Smith, who has been a terrific pantry volunteer the last couple of years. Tim is leaving us and we will miss him and his dedication to aid the less fortunate in our community. We wish him the best.

If you are interested in helping out at the Food Pantry one afternoon a month, please contact Cherie Dolgin at 461-1604. Duties include registering and logging in clients on the computer or packing grocery bags and replenishing shelves.

Cherie Dolgin
Coordinator of the Food Pantry Volunteers



Dining with Dignity



Our next event is coming up on April 6. If you are interested in participating, please sign-up early at the UU, or contact us for further details.

Thank you!
Lee Ann & Dave Forrest
UU Dining with Dignity Team

Dave and Lee Ann Forrest resigned their duties with the DWD program, effective after the April 6th commitment.

First, a big THANK YOU to both of them for taking on this critical outreach program and doing it very well.

Next, we need a new person/s who are members to volunteer to take over this program. Please let me know at your earliest convenience should you like to administer this program going forward.

Finally, Dave and Lee Ann offered to help train the new volunteer and see to it that they are off to a positive start, with the knowledge required to fulfill the duties necessary for success of the program.

PS, many thanks to all of you who so faithfully contribute to this program with your time, money, and culinary skills. It cannot happen without your support.

In faith,

Guy

Lifelong Learning Program

Working with our Unitarian Universalist children and youth is a delightful and inspiring experience.



Our younger children love reading and discussing books, build structures and making music. You might even get to hear some of the music when you come downstairs for social hour. The children are provided with nurturing relationships in a comfortable space. The children love their time with teacher, Cynthia McAuliffe.

Through our current curriculum, Windows and Mirrors, our older children are exploring who they are, their understandings about the world around them, and insights and challenges related to this adventure we call life. During March and April, our youth are learning about Unitarian Universalism – principles, traditions, rituals and social justice activities. In March, Cal Marshall helped our youth understand the impact of hunger in our own community, as well as the wider world. Cal shared information about Dining with Dignity (DWD), and his observations about the experience of people in need of food. Other volunteers, Karen and Carmine, hard-boiled ten dozen eggs during class, and then all helped decorate and pack the eggs for the DWD event that evening. Cal also engaged the youth in an informative discussion about the lighting of the chalice, and the significance of this UU symbol.



In April, Cherie Dolgin is building on the social justice theme of hunger as she shares information about the UUFSA work at the Food Pantry. The youth will also consider the people who need food and what situations lead to them asking for help to feed themselves and their families. Thank you in advance to everyone for bringing the Food Pantry donations requested – our youth will pack those for transport to the Food Pantry.

Other topics which our youth are currently exploring include discussions about how they perceive themselves visually, as well as their emotional or rational perceptions of the person they are. Claudia Atkins and Almadean Williams provided discussions and activities to consider how these self-perceptions develop, and how those perceptions affect how they function in their world of family, friends, school and community. With Pat Willott and Bobbie Brenner, our young UUs explored the topic of forgiveness. In-depth discussion included our feelings and responses when another person has done something hurtful to us, and whether it matters if the hurt is intentional or not; also how we feel and respond when we have done something hurtful to another person. In these activities, the youth will learn the wisdom about forgiveness taught by Anglican Archbishop, Desmond Tutu; as well as the Rabbinical teachings about the significance of an apology, that it is not just something to say casually, but is meaningful when it comes from the heart.

Many thanks to all of the people who have worked with our youth in the Lifelong Learning Program. The interests and talents of all of you will help build this program, which makes a difference in the lives of each child and family in our congregation. When family members or others join us after class, we love telling about what we have been learning. Please join us to learn more, come be a part of this important part of our congregation.

Upcoming meeting of the Lifelong Learning – Youth Committee is Sunday, April 13 at 12:00 in the Meditation Room.

MUUvies Film

NOWHERE IN AFRICA

(2003) Germany

Yes, this looks familiar. Because of technical difficulties, we were not able to show a MUUvie on March 14.



April 11, 7:00

Starring: Juliane Köhler, Matthias Habich, Merab Ninidze

Directed by: Caroline Link

Summary: A Jewish family in Germany emigrate short before the Second World War. They move to Kenya to start running a farm, but not all members of the family come to an arrangement with their new life. Shortly after their departure, things are changing in Germany very quickly, and a turning back seems impossible. So everyone has to arrange himself with the new life in a new continent.

Academy Award Nominee for Best Foreign Film in 2003

A love story spanning two continents, Nowhere in Africa is the extraordinary true tale of a Jewish family who flees the Nazi regime in 1938 for a remote farm in Kenya

*It is so rare to find a film where you become quickly, simply absorbed in the story. **Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times***

*The movie gives us lovingly shot landscapes, portraits of extraordinary friendships, a great score, dialogue that only occasionally slips into history lessons, a number of memorably etched minor characters, a splendid performance by its youngest star and two mysteries. **-Rick Kisonak, Wall Street Journal***

*Thanks to the superior performances by all four leads (including incredibly expressive Karoline Eckertz, who appears as the teenage Regina midway through), Nowhere in Africa is a meditation on everything from race and class and cultural impermanence to the inexhaustible malleability of youth. **-March Savlov, Austin Chronicle***



This is the 100th UUFSA MUUvie since the series began in 2006!

Documentary Friday

INEQUALITY FOR ALL

April 25, 2014

Winner of the Sundance Special Jury Award, 2013

Inequality for All features former U.S. Labor Secretary Robert Reich as he look to raise awareness about our country's widening economic gap.

Robert Reich writes,

"We're in the biggest economic slump since the Great Depression, and we can't seem to get out of it. Why? Because, exactly as in the 1920s, so much of the nation's income and wealth are going to the top, that the vast middle class doesn't have the purchasing power to keep the economy going.

I've spent most of my working life concerned about what's happening to American workers – their jobs, their wages, their hopes and fears. My father sold clothing to the wives of factory workers in the late 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. I watched as the factories began to close, and as those families struggled with a new economy. Households kept their living standards by sending those wives and mothers into paid work – a strategy that did the trick for a time. But when it no longer generated enough income, American families went deeper and deeper into debt – and that's been the vicious cycle most middle class Americans have been in ever since.

People are stressed. They're angry and frustrated, and the tide is only rising on that front. Their debt obligations are staggering, yet (if lucky enough to have a job), they're working harder and longer than ever before. People need to understand what's happening to them – because from their perspective, the picture looks pretty bleak.

Until we can take a step back and understand the big picture, we can't do anything to get ourselves out of this mess. Our democracy as we know it depends on it. I'm an educator. I love the classroom. But I also write books, appear on television and on the radio, and do everything else I can do to help people understand the economic truth. It's my life's work and it's more important than ever. One of the best ways to help people understand the challenges we face, is with a movie that can grab an audience and move them to action. And this movie will do that."



April Calendar

- 1 – Green Team 2:00 p.m.
- 6 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 7 – Great Decisions 7:00
- 11 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 11 – MUUvie – *Nowhere In Africa* 7:00 p.m.
- 13 – Lifelong Learning Committee 12:00
- 14 – Board Meeting 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- 15 – Book Club 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- 16 – Program Committee 5:00 – 6:00
- 20 – Downstairs Dialogue 9:15 – 10:15
- 23 – Lifelong Learning: Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice and Sustainability
- 25 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 25 – DocUUmentary – *Inequality for All* 7:00 p.m.
- 27 – Potluck lunch after service



April Birthdays

- 07 Kate Foster
- 11 Shannon Barry
- 13 Eugene Schepers
- 15 Pam Anderson
- 15 Tom May
- 18 Rae O'Hair
- 18 Ocee Brown
- 21 John Foster
- 23 Priscilla Caine
- 23 Annette Kidder



April Anniversaries



- 15 McAuliffe, Cynthia & Nick
 - 30 Brown, Alicia & Ocee
- Please let me know if I have missed you. Don

Beyond Our Congregation

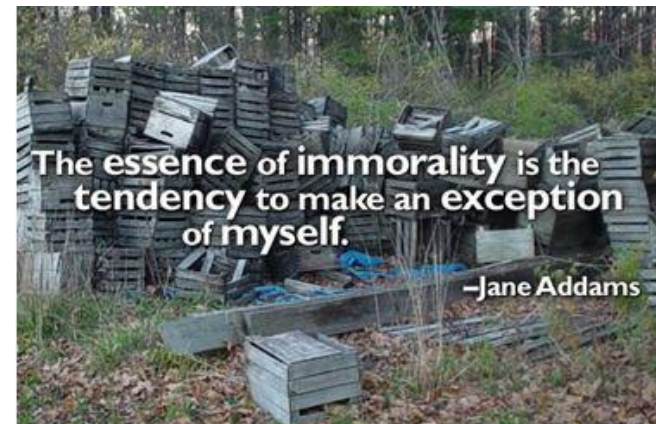
FLORIDA DISTRICT ASSEMBLY 2014

Statewide Unitarian Universalists will meet for our Annual Meeting on Friday on the weekend of April 25-26, at the UU Fellowship of Vero Beach. The Key Note Speaker will be new UUA Moderator Jim Key, who will simultaneously address all four UUA Districts in the Region via the wonders of modern technology.

Tandi Rogers, UUA Growth Strategist, will discuss “Fundamentals of UU Evangelism Without the Fundamentalism”. Bill Klontz, UUA Stewardship Consultant, will discuss “Why Is It so Hard to Support UUism”. The Florida District Board has a session on “Regional Collaboration”. UU Justice Florida will have an informative workshop and first Annual meeting. The film “Two Who Dared: The Sharps’ War” will be shown.

For more details on the program and registration and housing details, see the UUFVB website at uufvb.org.

Charlie West and Beverly Cree will be driving down to Vero Beach, leaving early Friday afternoon. They would be happy to offer a ride or coordinate transportation for interested UUFSAers.



Happenings at The Mountain

Come to The Mountain for a great program at an amazing place in the Blue Ridge Mountains – join us and let your spirit soar!

April 18-20 Volunteer Work Weekend – for the costs of meals (\$64), join us for fun, fellowship and projects to renew The Mountain

May 14-18 UU Womenspirit – Celebrating Our Authentic Selves

May 19-23 Appalachian Spring – folklore, crafts, history, music, dance, outdoor adventure and more

May 23-26 Mountain Homecoming – annual intergenerational weekend filled with activities, fun, camaraderie, beauty of the mountains, and a little bit of Mountain business

June 15-19 Wellness Retreat – yoga, meditation, life skills and coaching, empowering intentions, nutrition, music, art and massage

June 15–July 26 Youth Mountain Camps – first grade through high school – traditional, adventure or leadership camps

June 30-July 5 Fun and Adventure – whitewater rafting, rock climbing, ziplining, hiking, exploring waterfalls, entertainment and fellowship

July 27-August 1 Family Camp – intergenerational camp experience with a wide variety of activities.

October 6-9 SUUFI – Southern Unitarian Universalist Fall Institute – stimulating program in an inspiring place



A place. An experience.
A way forward for all ages.

Youth Camp and Intergenerational Family Camp

It is time to register for these camps, be sure not to miss out on these amazing experiences.

The Mountain is committed to providing meaningful, quality experiences for all youth, and fulfilling The Mountain's mission of inspiring people of all ages through a nurturing community, connection with nature and fun, challenging programs. Please check out the variety of traditional camps, outdoor adventure programs, and leadership experiences.

Although The Mountain is Unitarian Universalist based, the programs are open to all. Do you know a child or family who could benefit from a camp experience? Many lives have been enriched through MountainCamp. This could be an amazing gift for a special person in your life.

For more information about these programs, a personal retreat, family gathering, or organizational event, the website is:
www.mountaincenters.org or phone: 828.526.5838.

Or, contact Beverly Cree at bjcree@gmail.com or 904.471.0335 about Mountain opportunities or group transportation, or check out The Mountain display in the lower level at UUFSA.

Backstage View from The President



to do some serious scrubbing and exercise good ole elbow grease to get the old girl shining again.

Your Board was busy this month, having held two meetings to conduct UUFSa business. We have an Ad Hoc committee that recommended a bylaw revision which will be presented at our annual meeting in May. The members of the committee were Cynthia McAuliffe, Dave Perkins, and Charlie West. They are to be congratulated for a job well done.

The Board also approved a UUFSa Child and Youth Protection Policy and Procedures prepared by a subcommittee composed of Beverly Cree, Pat Moore, and Ruth Weber, with vital suggestions contributed by Dave Perkins who is the “go to” guy for policy and procedures.

It is with a large degree of sadness that I share with you that Lola Sorenson will be leaving as the Chair of the Program Committee. Lola has performed brilliantly in this capacity and I hope you will thank her, too, when you see her at the Fellowship. Typical of her dedication, Lola will stay with the new Chair until there is a good comfort level that it passes on to new good hands. Clearly this is one of the most vital committees in the Fellowship.

Finally Spring has sprung. I, for one, am glad to welcome its advent and I am willing to wager you are, too! Which brings to mind the old spring cleaning ritual. We will be having one inside the Fellowship building sometime next month. Look for an announcement soon. I hope those of you who like to paint will be available since there are several areas that need a refresher coat. We also need

A special thank you to Cherie Dolgin who conducted one of the Board meetings this month. Rest assured the gavel passes on to competent hands if Cherie is confirmed as our new President by the Fellowship. She has demonstrated her leadership qualities already with her tenure as the Chair of the Food Pantry for the UUFSa, one of our vital outreach programs. She also put up with my ranting and raving a few times when I needed to vent, so I owe you, Cherie!

Just a note of appreciation to those of you who volunteered to provide coffee and refreshments, and potluck this season. Please remember when you do this important job to be sure the kitchen and main room are left clean and in good order. Our cleaning person does not include detailing the kitchen in their duties since there is a budget restraint there. Rita Golts has put in her own time to clean up after the Sunday offering downstairs and that clearly is not her job as Hospitality co-chair.

Well on a personal note, I am in the new house – sort of you might say. The floors are being finished this week so everything is topsy-turvy again until that is done. But I count my blessings. At least the move is over. Next week I will be at the Fellowship again Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 2 to 4p. So drop by and chat if you feel so inclined. It will be nice to return to that routine.

Remember we have alternative parking available just up the street at the City parking lot.

If you are interested in volunteering for any committee or project, shoot me an e-mail at guyreid@att.net. New e-mail address.

See you around the Fellowship. Shalom.

Guy