

QUEST



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter

St. Augustine Beach, Florida

June 2015

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

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Fellowship sermons are held Sundays at 10:30 a.m., September through June.

A summer program will run from July 12 through August 9, 2015.

No services will be held July 5 or August 16 through September 6

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

Refreshments are served after the service so all may socialize.

Audio transcripts of most presentations are available on request.

Board of Trustees 2014 - 2015

President	Cherie Dolgin
Vice President	Pat Moore
Secretary	Nana Royer
Treasurer	Ruth Weber
Trustee	Elle Barry
Trustee	Charlie West
Trustee	Palmer Short
Trustee	Megan Porter
Trustee	Pat Maguire

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The *Quest* is published monthly from September through July.

Materials for inclusion in the July issue are due by June 26.

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

Thanks to Charlie West for proofreading.



A Peace of Mind

From The President



Our annual Congregational Meeting took place on Sunday, May 17th. The highlights were:

Recognition by the Board President of the arduous work the Board completed this year. This includes holding four Congregational meetings to decide the question of hiring a half-time contract minister, to select three members of the Ministerial Search Committee and to pass a motion to offer Rev. Tom Schmidt a three year contract as our half-time minister.

At the other Congregational meeting, it was decided to accept the proposal for six impact-glass windows and two stained glass windows. Additionally, it was decided to designate one Sunday plate each month to an agreed upon charity, to be reviewed at the annual meeting.

~Special thanks were given to the following fundraisers:

Mary Kellough, Jane Mahoney and Janis May – Game Day
Megan Porter, Eddie and Robin Mahonen – Coffee House
Elle Barry – the Service Marketplace



~Ruth Weber was acknowledged for organizing the recent Stewardship Dinner, “A Celebration of Gratitude.”

~The Board will be sending out an updated report of our progress of work on the Strategic Plan and future priorities by June 30th.

~Small gifts of appreciation were given to:

*The members of the Ministerial Search Committee – Beverly Cree, Barbara Battelle, Claudia Atkins and Cal Marshall.

*Dave Perkins for his countless hours spent setting up our finances on the QuickBooks Program.

*Ruth Weber for her many years as Officer and Trustee on the Board, most recently three years as our Treasurer.

~This year’s recipient of the Lifetime Service and Achievement Award went to JoAnne Engelbert. JoAnne was recognized for her many years of work on various committees at UUFSA, as well as her social justice efforts in the community. Well deserved, JoAnne!

(More on next page)

~A review and vote on the third Sunday “Share the Plate” trial resulted in its being continued after Treasurer Ruth Weber showed that the plate on other Sundays has increased since we started this practice.

~Joyce Peterson, of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate which was approved for the 2015-2016 year:

Board Officers

President – Lola Sorensen
Vice-President – Elle Barry
Secretary – Nana Royer
Treasurer – Larry Cowart

Trustees

Cherie Dolgin
Pat Moore
Megan Porter
Pat Willott
Charlie West

Nominating Committee

Mary Kellough (chair)
Joyce Peterson
Rosita Angeli

~Dave Perkins, Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the budget for 2015-2016, which was approved.

~The meeting ended with Committee Chairs giving brief reports about the work their committees have done over the past year.

All that has been accomplished this year could not have been done without every Member’s and Friend’s contributions. THANK YOU ALL!

*In Fellowship,
Cherie Dolgin, Board President*

June Calendar

1 – Great Decisions 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
4 – Care Connection – 10:30 a.m. - noon
5 – Darts Night 7:00 p.m. –
7 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
8 – Board of Trustees Meeting 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
10 – Social Concerns Committee 10:30 a.m. –
12 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
12 – mUUvie *Lone Star* 6:30 p.m. –
17 – Program Committee 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
18 – PFLAG meeting 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
19 – Darts Night 7:00 p.m. –
19 – Afternoon Book Club Luncheon – TBD

24 – 28 UUA General Assembly, Portland Oregon
26 – mUUvie *Two for the Road* 6:30 p.m.
26 – Deadline for Quest contributions
26 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
28 – Potluck lunch after service



Sunday, June 7

“Compassion Through the Eyes of Children”

Caren Goldman



When Compassionate St. Augustine created the Obelisk Art 450 public art project that will be exhibited citywide next Fall, the grassroots organization hoped this unique tribute to the 450th anniversary of the Ancient City would become a legacy project. Now, 18 months later, that is just what is already happening — especially because of the group’s elementary school initiative — “Compassion Through the Eyes of Children.”



Ms. Goldman will discuss the story of how her organization’s three compassion-based approaches to the arts – 25 8.5 foot replicas of the iconic Spanish Constitution monument on Public Square; a unique international OA450 art project with Aviles, Spain, and Compassion Through the Eyes of Children — came to be and why, when we see compassion through the eyes of children, it becomes self-evident that this project has not only influenced and inspired the 424 students and their teachers who participated, but that it can do the same for us and for generations to come.

Caren Goldman is the executive director and cofounder of Compassionate St. Augustine, the grassroots nonprofit organization that was responsible for our City Commission unanimously affirming the Charter for Compassion and in so doing becoming the first Compassionate City in Florida and the 20th in the world. In late 2014, Caren, her co-founders Ted Voorhees and Jim Vande Berg and the Compassionate St. Augustine board initiated the Obelisk Art 450 public art tribute to the 450th anniversary of the nation’s oldest city and its St. Johns County elementary school component, “Compassion Through the Eyes of Children.”

Caren’s career as an award-winning journalist and author spans more than 30 years. She is also a retreat leader, professional conflict resolution consultant and trainer. She serves on the Charter for Compassion International Global Council and is a founding board member of the Cyprian Center. Caren is also an advisory board member for Flagler College’s Cecil & Gene Usdin Judeo-Christian Lecture Series and OneJax’s Interfaith committee.

Her two most recent books are Prevention Magazine’s Ultimate Guide To Breast Cancer and RESTORING LIFE’S MISSING PIECES: The Spiritual Power of Remembering and Reuniting with People, Places, Things and Self which was named a Best Spiritual Book of 2011. Her book Healing Words For The Body, Mind and Spirit: 101 Words To Inspire and Affirm was written shortly after she had breast cancer in 1999. Today, it is used worldwide by individuals, physicians, hospitals, hospices, therapists, clergy, and support groups.

Sunday, June 14, 10:30 a.m.

“Unitarian Universalism: Salvation To Damnation?”

Unitarian Universalists are not Christian in the sense of requiring creedal belief for salvation. While congregations vary widely, all UUA member congregations covenant to affirm and promote an agreed set of seven principles. None of these principles speak to salvation though in the common understanding.

Reverend Patricia (Pat) Ray, a graduate of Hartford Seminary, is an interfaith minister, registered healer with the International Natural Healers Association (INHA), and Reiki Master. A Registered Nurse with a Masters’ degree in Public Administration, she has been a UU for 26 years and a member of Buckman Bridge UU Church for 14. Rev. Pat completed her Clinical Pastoral Education at Baptist South Medical Center. As a chaplain for BBUUC, she provides spiritual support and pastoral care to members and their families. Rev. Pat facilitates the monthly BB UU Christian Fellowship, and is a member of the Christian Universalist Association.



Sunday, June 21, 10:30 a.m.

“I Pledge Allegiance”

Rev. Jack Ford



Where does our allegiance lie?

When I was a child in school, we pledged allegiance “to the flag, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” One of the Principles affirmed by Unitarian Universalist churches is “the goal of world community, with peace, liberty and justice for all.”

Recently, Presidential candidate Rand Paul spoke 10 hours on the Senate floor on his objection to the Patriot Act and its threats to liberty for American citizens. In his book on communitarianism, Professor Amitai Etzioni spoke on the need for a balance between social order and autonomy. And he asked the question: “Can a society gain both more order and more liberty?”

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 now serves as minister of the Buckman Bridge UU Church.

Sunday, June 28, 10:30 a.m.

“Being a UU in the Bible Belt: What do we do with our Anger?”

Linda Crawford



UU churches in North Florida are islands of liberal religious and social values in a sea of fundamentalism. The result, for some of us, (including your speaker today), has been frustration and anger. How is that working for us?

Linda Crawford and her husband Dale have been Unitarian Universalists for almost 7 years, and wish they had known about the religion many years ago, when their two sons were young. Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church in Jacksonville has been their first, and only church home. Linda presents frequent sermons at her church, and is delighted to speak to her neighbors in St. Augustine. Linda's academic background is in the History of Art.

2015 Summer Program

This summer we are having a modified morning Summer Program Sunday July 12 through August 9 at 10:30 a.m.. This program will be all lay lead, so if you have a message, viewpoint or music you would like to share with the congregation, we look forward to hearing from you! Possible topics include environmental concerns, veganism, education, art, music, social concerns, etc. We want this program to be family friendly and children are encouraged to attend and participate. This might also be a good time for the RE people to give some mini-lessons in order to showcase that program. I will be happy to help you plan or answer any questions you might have. Stay tuned for more information. ***Megan Porter***

Program Committee Announcements

During the month of June, there will be a few experimental changes made to the Joys and Sorrows and Talk Back portions of the service.

Regarding Joys and Sorrows we ask that you record your joy, sorrow or commemoration in a book that will be on a stand in the back of the Sanctuary before the start of the service. The Service Leaders will read what is recorded and light candles during the service. We ask that your joy, sorrow or commemoration be of a personal nature.

We are also trying out a new method for the congregational conversation, in which we will close the service after the sermon and invite those with comments or questions for the speaker to stay after the service to talk to the speaker, while others can go to Social Hour.

Thank you

Megan Porter/Program Committee

Lifelong Learning - Youth



The Whitney Travelling Zoo Came to UUFSA



The children had an “up-close and personal” encounter with a number of their more distant ocean cousins when Barbara Battelle and Jim Alligood brought the Whitney Lab’s Traveling Zoo to the Fellowship. The children first sorted the animals into groups of similar kinds --- arthropods, mollusks, echinoderms, cnidarians--- then touched, held and ask questions about each. They discovered that anemones are soft while clams have a hard shell, felt and watched mud snails move in their hand using a muscular foot while sea stars tickled their hand with hundreds of tube feet, learned that female blue crabs have pink “finger nails” and that urchins love to accessorize.

The children located the animals they were looking at and holding on a poster depicting our evolutionary family tree and

discovered that mollusks are their 300 millionth cousins and that sea stars are their 280 millionth cousins. This event gave the children an opportunity to meet their distant ocean cousins first hand and helped them appreciate that they are part of a huge and wonderful extended family.

We were able to have this event because Barbara Battelle is Professor emeritus at UF’s Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience where she studies basic mechanisms of vision using horseshoe crabs. Isn't it exciting to have a teacher who is a scientist and who can help us think about the natural world in new ways.



Water: All living things drink from one well.

Continuing our explorations through science, we participated in the UU Service Committee activities related to world water issues. We learned how water arrived on Earth about 4 billion years ago --- via asteroid collisions and that we still have that water but only that water, as the earth is not producing new water. The children explored the idea of the water cycle, why there are now water shortages, and how much water is used to produce what is on their dinner plates. The Service Committee to all.

Beverly Cree

Great Decisions

“Africa”

Monday June 1, 7:00 p.m.



The discussion group Great Decisions normally goes into recess over the months of June, July, and August. It picks up again on the first Monday of September. However, at our last discussion – on Africa – we found there were so many areas of interest that we didn’t have time to cover in our two-hour discussion, we decided to meet again in June.

At our Monday June 1 meeting, we will break from our traditional format of one presenter. Instead we will have five brief presentations – all concerning Africa:

Cynthia will talk about “belief systems”

Ken will cover “governance issues.”

Rose will talk to us about Somalia.

Vanessa will talk about “gender and development.”

Yosi will discuss “arguments for and against aid.”

- perhaps we’ll also have a brief presentation on “the growth of terrorism in Africa.”

Great Decisions will NOT meet in July or August. We come back from the summer break on Monday, September 7th, when the topic of the Great Decision discussion will be Trafficking of People.

For more information, contact **Yosi** (461 3175 or jomcintire@bellsouth.net).

Highway Cleanup



There will be a highway clean-up on

Thursday, June 11. Meet at the UU at 8:00 a.m.

For more information, contact **Palmer Short**, 797-4774, palshort@gmail.com.

Afternoon Book Club Annual Lunch

The Afternoon Book Club’s annual luncheon will be on June 9, location to be determined For more information, contact **Isobel Siegel**, 794-2293.



Social Concerns Committee

The Social Concerns Committee will meet on June 10, at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact **JoAnne Englebert** at engsch@bellsouth.net or 460-1190.

Mayor Nancy Shaver Addressed PFLAG at the Fellowship on May 21

St. Augustine City HRO (Human Rights Ordinance) was the subject of Mayor Nancy Shaver's address to PFLAG on May 21. She was invited by the group to guide decisions on upgrading the city HRO, an ordinance that protects human rights of all citizens in the areas of housing, employment and public accommodation. Her help and support will be invaluable in strengthening the ordinance. Literature for the meeting included a quotation from Rev. Phillip Baber of the UU Church of Jacksonville which I would like to share with you: He says, "As a UU, my *faith* compels me to take concrete steps to incarnate justice in the world. My *faith* compels me to recognize and affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every human being. My faith compels me to fight against hate, discrimination, and inequality in my community."

PFLAG, a grassroots support group for families and friends of the LGBTQ community, welcomes us all to its meetings, held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Fellowship.

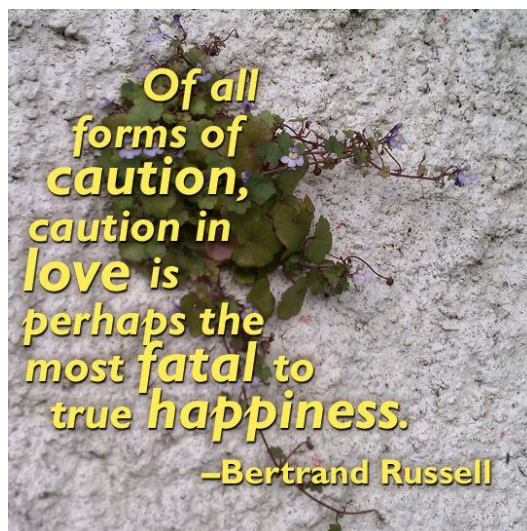
Jo Anne Engelbert, Acting Chair, Social Concerns

Care Connection



Our Care Connection group provides short term support and assistance for members of the fellowship during times of difficulty.

We thank everyone for their generous support with transportation to medical appointments, making meals, assistance with errands, visiting and sharing. The Care Connection includes everyone in our Fellowship willing to receive and give support at times of difficulty. Contact **Elle Barry** if you are in need of assistance or would like to be involved in the Care Connection Group



Darts Nights



Darts night are now being held at the Pub UU (Basement at the U U) 7:00 pm the first and third Friday. If you are interested get in touch with Palmer Short (palshort@gmail.com) or Dave Perkins(daveagain@gmail.com).

Palmer

St. Johns Food Pantry



THE FOOD PANTRY WELCOMES MAY FLOWERS

I noted that the Sunday May 10th UUFSa cash collection plate is for the Food Pantry. Thank you for your continuing support with jolly greenbacks. That will be money well spent toward the Pantry mission to help provide for those in need of assistance to feed themselves and their families. Total donations from the participating churches and their membership for April were \$4,205.30, which included cash from UUFSa individuals. Your giving spirit is both admirable and very much appreciated. The Food Pantry depends on your continuing support with food and cash donations. Your sharing with them is a true gift

for those who need help in feeding themselves and their families. The increase in homeless families with children is a reality, as well as those households that barely keep roofs over their heads. The Pantry fed 302 families in April (281 in March) which was already an increase of 50 more over February). It helped 463 adults, 306 children with a total of 453 bags 10,872 meals (it was 10,152 in March, and in contrast, in February it was 7,824 meals. These figures point to increased need in the community for the time being.

You are invited to make your cash donation or check made out to the UUFSa with a note that it is for the Food Pantry, to Ruth Weber, UUFSa Treasurer and she will donate it to the Food Pantry on your behalf. You can also use PayPal. This extra step documents UUFSa generosity on our own records. You can also make a donation with a gift card.

The Pantry depends on your continuing to provide items like canned meat, cereal, pasta/sauce, dried beans, rice, and soup, to help replace donations no longer coming from Nourishment Network. Peanut butter is plentiful at the moment; however, jam and jellies to top the peanut butter are not in stock while kids of all ages love peanut and jelly together. So if you can give only one item, make it jam and/or jelly.

Our volunteers for this month for UUFSa include John Porter, Lou and Jill Cerulli Nana Royer, Cal Marshall and Pat Maguire, and me. Cal Marshall and Pat Maguire also continue to be food shoppers for The Pantry whenever there is a fifth week in the month. Cal and Pat, and all of our volunteers deserve our special thanks so when you see them let them know how much they are appreciated. Thanks to all of our volunteers and to all of you who contribute food and/or money to help sustain this dynamic outreach program.

We welcome, (hint: need) more volunteers. If you are interested shoot me an e-mail at watashiwasan@aol.com. Remember, this commitment is year round, including the summer months.

Guy Reid

Food Pantry Coordinator for UUFSa

Dining With Dignity

Our next opportunity to provide a nourishing meal for the homeless will be Easter Sunday, June 7, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact a member of the Dining With Dignity Team:

Mary Kellough, Nana Royer & Claudia Atkins

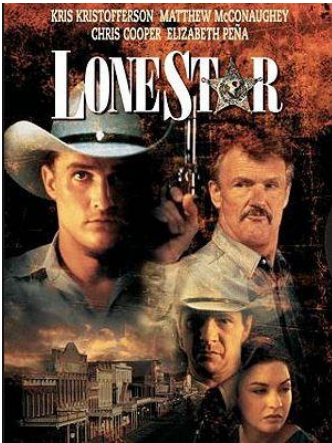


MUUvies

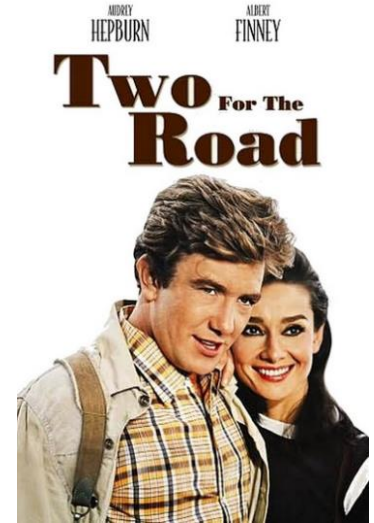
6:30 p.m.



June 12- *Lone Star* (1996) 135 minutes - drama/mystery/romance - Rotten Tomato-93% When the skeleton of his murdered predecessor is found, Sheriff Sam Deeds unearths many other long-buried secrets in his Texas border town.



June 26 *Two For The Road* (1967) 111 minutes - starring Audrey Hepburn and Albert Finney. Travel with Hepburn at her most beautiful and appealing and Finney handsome as ever as they discover all the joys of a relationship and the pitfalls. The laughs and the tears. They relive these as they travel the south of France for holiday. Roger Ebert gives it four stars and Rotten Tomatoes an 80. The movie is also enhanced by the music of Henry Mancini.



Beyond Our Congregation

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!



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

For more information about Mountain programs:

www.mountaincenters.org/calendar or 828.526.5838 or contact Lyn Klarman,

Priscilla Gulliver or Beverly Cree at UUFSA. Plan now to be part of these special programs.

Register for early discount and assure you are included.

June 1-4 Mountain Hiking Retreat

June and July – Youth Camps for 6-year-olds through high school

June 29 – July 5 Fun and Adventure

July 21 – 24 Health and Wellness

July 26 - August 2 (also partial week programs) Intergenerational Family Camp

October 4 – 9 SUUFI – Southern UU Fall Institute

See The Mountain calendar for other programs.



The view from Meditation Rock!



Buckman Bridge Events

8447 Manresa Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32244

Animals as Partners, Healers, Teachers, and Guides. Rev. Elizabeth Teal of the Ministry of Animals will be continuing her 4-part series on the varied ways of including animals into our faith at 7:00 p.m. on June 17 and Aug 19. Rev. Teal will delve into animals as partners, healers, teachers, and friends. Contact ReverendTeal@gmail.com for more information.

Reiki Training, Level 1 – Fundraiser. Rev. Pat Ray and Rev. Liz Teal will be providing a Reiki Level 1 training on Saturday, June 27th, 10:00 am-5:00 p.m. Cost is \$35 for BBUUC members, \$75 for non-members. Fee includes class, workbook and light lunch. All proceeds will be donated to the Emergency Caring Fund. Advance enrollment is required due to the limited class size. Please contact reverendray@comcast.net or ReverendTeal@gmail.com for more information.

Medieval Art: a Personal View. BBUUC hosts an interactive series every Wednesday in June at 7:00 p.m., moderated by Linda Crawford (MA and PhD Candidacy in Gothic and Northern Renaissance Art History)

June 3rd: How Jesus' image changed

June 10th: 500-1000-Early Medieval Art

June 17th: High Gothic Art.

June 24th: Late Gothic/Northern Renaissance Art

There will be an additional class July 1st if requested. Contact religious_ed@bbuuc.org for more information.

Religious Texts and Society. On Thursday, July 9 at 7:00pm, the Religious Texts and Society group will discuss Misquoting Jesus by Bart Ehrman. If you would like more information, please contact Dale Crawford (treasurer@bbuuc.org) or Scott Cromar (pr_communications@bbuuc.org).

Other Events



June 24 – 28 UUA General Assembly, Portland Oregon

For more information, go to <http://www.uua.org/ga/program/schedule>

For more information about other events beyond our Fellowship, check the UUA Southern Region event calendar at: <http://www.uuasouthernregion.org/home.html>

