

QUEST



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter

St. Augustine Beach, Florida

November 2015

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

Mail: PO Box 5117, St Augustine, FL, 32085

uufsamail@gmail.com <http://www.uufsa.org/>

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

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 online.

Board of Trustees 2014 - 2015

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

Materials for the December issue are due by November 23.

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

Thanks to Charlie West for proofreading.



From Your President

Dear UU'ers,

Hello Everyone, I hope you're enjoying this delicious weather as much as I am. It's so lovely to be comfortable outside again and I find it energizing, stimulating. Whether it's the change in the weather or just being another month into this program year at the Fellowship, I'm not sure, but I have been thinking about our Fellowship; who we are and what we do.



Our Mission Statement, which a group of us created several years ago in a day-long workshop, reads: "The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine is a dynamic, loving community that nurtures spirit, mind and ethical action. Guided by the principles of our liberal faith, we serve our congregation and the greater community." The action words are "nurture" and "serve." For me, this statement works because I do feel nurtured in spirit and mind, and encouraged toward ethical action. I also serve the congregation, this year as president, and I serve the greater community through participation in Dining with Dignity and the interfaith community. The Fellowship has become a big part of my social life as well as a focal point for my spiritual development.

I wonder if I am in the minority, and I wonder about this because we seem to have trouble finding people willing to accept positions of responsibility for governance and operations. People often say they are willing to help, but do not want to be in charge. Why is this? I'm not sure, but clearly, leadership development is among our most urgent needs. If you'd like to be more active, but are undecided where to put your energy, you should plan to attend on Sunday, November 15 when our current team leaders will put on a "team fair" during coffee hour. You'll discover what each of our teams does, what they are excited about, and how you might join in the action. Elle Barry is organizing this event with the help of Cherie Dolgin and myself. Watch for news about the particulars, and please do plan to be there.

We UU's have a wonderful avenue for leadership training in the Southern UU Leadership Experience (SUULE), held each summer. I attended a few years back and found it to be a rich and profound experience. It's a week-long adventure, during which time you create a community of participants as you learn about how to lead, how to solve the problems that always come up in group work, how to maintain right relations in a congregation, how to create a cohesive worship service, and most importantly, why we do this work at all. It is exhilarating to be among so many committed UU's, as well as our district and regional leaders. My fondest wish is that we would have two people (at least) eager to attend next year's SUULE.

Last summer I went to Orlando for the Presidents' Convocation, a weekend event where I met other presidents and presidents-elect, and spent time discussing common problems and solutions, ways of handling church operations whether completely lay-lead or with a minister. Our leader was Maggie Lovins, who is our first contact person in our district, and once again, I found it exhilarating just to be among so many UU's. I think the same could be said 1000 times over if you go to the UU General Assembly. Ask Nana Royer or Dave Perkins about the experiences they have had. We have benefitted from the many ideas they brought home.

And right here in our congregation, we have the able assistance of Rev. Tom, whose wise and considered words have already enhanced our Board of Trustees meetings as well as other team meetings I've attended. So we do not lack in opportunity for learning whatever you feel you need to know to accept a position of leadership in our congregation. Please consider your own unique set of skills and talents to find how you might best serve our congregation, and learn why so many see service as a spiritual practice.

*In faith,
Lola Sorensen*

From Your Minister

“Hospitality is a lively, courageous, and convivial way of living that challenges our compulsion either to turn away or to turn inward and disconnect ourselves from others. Hospitality is not optional to a well-balanced and healthy life. It addresses the core loneliness that we avoid with the bustle and haste of our hectic lives.”

Father Daniel Homan & Lonnie Collins Pratt

I think that an important aspect of religious community is the manifestation of hospitality as described above. It is called Radical Hospitality in their book of the same name and it is based on the monastic tradition founded by St. Benedict. Radical hospitality is not about “grand gestures,” it requires nothing of a person but an open mind and an open heart. Ideally, it is what we strive to do every Sunday and at every meeting we attend here at the Fellowship.



“There is a big loneliness at the center of every person. It is universal. There’s a reason for the loneliness. It is meant to lead you somewhere. Even if you are unconscious of it, the big lonely is driving you homeward.”

Homan & Pratt

The reason people attend our Fellowship, or any church or spiritual community can often be traced back to this feeling of loneliness or isolation. The word church as we know it today comes with lots of baggage, personal for many of us, but also with great historical baggage. The original word in the New Testament that was mistranslated to church was “ecclesia,” which meant, “the called out.” I prefer this to “church” because it speaks directly to the heart of what religious community is all about. We are each and all “called out” of our feelings of loneliness and isolation to be part of something larger than ourselves.

This Fellowship is our spiritual “home.” It sustains and supports us just as we sustain and support it. It is the place where we feel safe to build the relationships and do the work of the spirit, the work that gives life meaning and purpose. Have no doubt, every guest that walks through our doors is seeking to ease the same feelings that brought each of us here. What they want to know when they come here is whether this is their safe place, if this is their home. They want to know if we are as eager to welcome them into our home as they are eager to be welcomed.

“When I let a stranger into my heart, I let a new possibility approach me. When I reach past my own ideas, I begin to stretch myself open to the world, and this opening of my heart could change everything

Homan & Pratt

Rev. Tom Schmidt



Sunday, November 1, 10:30 a.m. “Black Lives Matter” Rev. Tom Schmidt

Racism is a serious issue in our country, and one with no quick and easy solutions. We will consider how we as a community and we as individuals might actively work to at least better understand the problem and how we might take action to help our nation reach the goal of liberty and justice for all lives.

Sunday, November 8, 10:30 a.m. “Say What?” Lou Murray

Musician Lou Murray, will speak on "**The Ways in Which We Misunderstand Each Other.**" Examples of humorous and not-so-humorous misunderstandings, and four ways we can communicate more clearly. Presentation will include some of Lou's original music. She will be bringing a number of CDs to give away. These will be a preview collection of original music from her upcoming album "Bring on the Brass," featuring her trumpet and big band compositions.

Lou Murray is a musical composer and multi-instrumentalist. She served as music director for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Hagerstown, MD for several years before retiring to Florida in 2012. Since 2010, has recorded 12 CDs of original instrumental music and has just completed a CD of inspirational songs featuring vocals by her son Richard. You can find more about Lou on her website: <http://loumurraymusic.com> and listen to some of Lou's original music for free at: <http://loumurray.bandcamp.com>.



Sunday, November 15, 10:30 a.m. “Radical Hospitality” Rev. Tom Schmidt

As the holidays approach and we make plans to visit or host friends and family, let us consider the spiritual practice of Radical Hospitality. As I mention in my article, Radical Hospitality is based on Benedictine monastic tradition which invites us to take hospitality to a much deeper place than what is customary.

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

"Invitational Spirituality"

Uncle Eddie & Robin

Educational theorists have suggested that children learn more readily when the environment is made more inviting, and more conducive to facilitating engagement in the educational process. Likewise, UU's recognize that our particular spirituality requires that we be inviting and accepting. Our fourth principle asks that we strive for a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. Our first principle mandates that we accept the worth and dignity of every person. Our third principle requires that we accept one another, and encourage each other's spiritual growth. All of these suggest that we must therefore make our congregations inviting to those of widely divergent spiritual paths. How do we do this? Uncle Eddie & Robin will explore this theme with words and music.

Uncle Eddie & Robin moved to the St. Augustine area last year and immediately joined our congregation. They are a husband/wife musical duet most recently arrived from Wheeling, West Virginia, where they performed an eclectic mix of classic rock, bluegrass and original music. Ed was an icon on the Appalachian music scene, having performed there for over 40 years, and having the honor of being a member of the staff band of the legendary Wheeling Jamboree. They are also social and environmental activists, having founded the Wheeling Water Warriors, organized the Great Ohio River Relay, and attended Occupy Wall Street and the People's Climate March in NYC. Robin is a graduate of Hunter College of CUNY with a BA in psychology and sociology. She also holds a Master's in Social Work from Adelphi University, as well as additional post-graduate training at the University of Pittsburgh in Social Work and Public Health. She had a private mental health practice for 15 years in Washington, PA. She is a lifelong UU, and was involved on the Board of Trustees at the Ohio Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation in several capacities, as President, Vice-President, and Trustee. She is a mother of four. Uncle Eddie & Robin have conducted services and performed at numerous UU congregations throughout the Midwest and Northeast.

Look them up on the web at www.uncleeddieandrobin.com or on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/UncleEddieandRobin?ref=ts>



Sunday, November 29, 10:30 a.m. "Creating a Kinship with the Natural World" AyoLane Halusky

How to create a Kinship with the natural world around you is what I find myself teaching daily. There are many methods and many pitfalls one encounters on the path to kinship. If you become aware of your inner and outer relationships with your environment, kinship can be achieved and create insight towards a healthy lifestyle. My personal mission is Building kinship with the Earth, which motivates through deep connection with the local environment sensitizing people to become an active role in creating positive life journeys and communities.

AyoLane Halusky is the St. Johns County Naturalist, in the Department of Recreation and Parks. His exposed secret agenda is to create or bring awareness to emotionally charged positive experiences in the natural world to encourage a stronger heartfelt connection between the person and the local area for years to come.

AyoLane Halusky has more than 20 years of professional experience creating and conducting many different kinds of programs for universities, children and family services, schools and public populations; focusing on community building within and outside of the natural world. He is a St. Johns County native who knows the local waters and wilderness areas spending most of his youth and adult life exploring these hidden areas. He is a passionate teacher creating opportunities and sharing his unique views for understanding the local environment from an intimate and community level.



Downstairs Dialogue Sunday, November 8 9:15 - 10:15am, downstairs

This month, we will introduce our discussions of “This I Believe”. At each session, we will read and discuss a statement of the closely held beliefs of a well-known person. These personal essays were originated in the 1950’s in a series of radio broadcasts produced by Edward R. Murrow, and the series has been carried on by National Public Radio.

On Sunday, November 8, we will be reading and discussing the personal beliefs of Isabel Allende, prominent Chilean novelist and niece of Chilean president Salvador Allende, who was assassinated in 1973. Charlie West will facilitate the discussion. Come join us at 9:15am downstairs!

UUFS Team Fair

Sunday, November 15

During Social Hour

"Service is the cornerstone of our Unitarian Universalist identity. Through service, not only do we play our part in healing our broken world, but we also find the opportunity to grow our own faith and spirituality, and to enhance our relationships with others."

Here is a chance to see how you can serve our Fellowship and reap a few benefits for yourself while you're at it!



A representative from each team (formerly "committee") will be available downstairs to discuss what the team does, and what kind of help is needed. Some teams are looking for additional members but you need not be a "team member" to participate. Your service can fit you perfectly as you design your own level of participation.

Here's a big "Thank You" in advance to all the folks who look and find a place or way to serve. You make a difference.

Elle Barry

November Calendar

- 1 – Guest at Your Table Kickoff
- 1 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 2 – Great Decisions – 7:00 p.m.
- 6 – Darts Night 7:00 p.m. – 9:00
- 7 – Refugee Benefit Concert – 7:30 p.m.
- 8 – Downstairs Dialogue – 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.
- 8 – Membership Team meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 9 – Board of Trustees meeting 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- 12 – Highway Pickup 8:00 a.m.
- 13 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 13 – MUUvie *Soylent Green*– 6:30 p.m.
- 15 – Team Fair 12:00 p.m.
- 16 – Amnesty International – 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- 17 – Book Club *Three Day Road* 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
- 18 – Program Team 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 19 – PFLAG meeting 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
- 20 – Darts Night 7:00 p.m. – 9:00
- 22 – Finance Committee 12:00 p.m.
- 23 – Drumming Circle 7:00 p.m.
- 27 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 27 – Movie *Nobody's Fool* 6:30 p.m.





Refugee Benefit Concert

November 7, 7:30 p.m.

**At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine
2487 A1A South, 3/4 miles south of State Road 312**

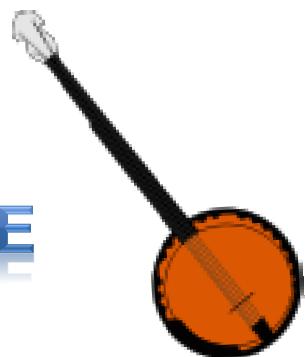
This concert is sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine, Music and Social Concerns Teams in response to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and the Unitarian Universalist Association appeal for funds for refugees fleeing harm to seek asylum in Europe.

Entry is a free-will offering at the door. Another donation basket will be available downstairs at the reception table.

MUSIC FEATURES:



**UUFSATALENT
BARRY DRILL AND MICHELLE
MERIDIAN FOLK
UNCLE EDDIE AND ROBIN**



Palmer Short will emcee.

After the concert enjoy wine, non-alcoholic drinks; hors d'oeuvres and desserts. No charge for refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

All funds will be channeled to refugees through the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (the human rights arm of Unitarian Universalist Association).

Adult Learning 2015-16

We are resuming Downstairs Dialogue, our monthly series of presentations and discussions on diverse topics of interest to Unitarian Universalists. Since we are a religious institution, sessions will normally have a religious, moral/ethical, or philosophical theme. The content and format will be varied, a combination of invited and UUFSAs presenters, and discussions among ourselves on topics of interest. We will meet regularly on the second Sunday of each month, from 9:15 to 10:15am. No advanced preparation is required, and drop-ins are welcome, especially guests and visitors from the wider community.

On Sunday, November 8, we will be having the first of our “This I Believe” discussions of the beliefs of well-known people. (See page 6).

In some future Downstairs Dialogue sessions, Ozzie Boutin will lead us in discussions using the “Socrates” method now in use down at the Council on Aging. At the beginning of the session, each attendee will submit a topic to be discussed that day, and all will then vote on which one(s) to discuss. Topics can come from our own experience, or gleaned from headlines in the media.

In other future sessions, we will be hearing from invited speakers, followed by discussion. For example, in December, a presenter from the Islamic Center will lead a discussion of Islam.

Signups for our new course, “Our Place in the Web of Life”, have now ended, and a large group have started meeting. Perhaps we will have a “report” from the participants at a future time.

If anyone has any ideas how we can improve our Adult Learning program, please let us know. We need suggestions for topics, presenters, and other ideas.

*Charlie West
Co-chair, Adult Learning*



Lifelong Learning Program Children and Youth



Jayda exploring and talking with her teacher,

Our Youngest Children With their caring teacher, Amy, they have a comfortable space and opportunities to:

- Read books to learn about themselves and their world, and enjoy adventures through stories
- Use a variety of art and construction materials to experiment with different designs
- Engage in activities like crawling, standing, walking, rolling balls, stacking tubes, working puzzles
- Get to know other children and adults – learn how we are alike and different, and how we get to know others and become friends

Come Join Us on the Playground after Services

We enjoy spending time on the playground after services. This is a great time for children, youth and adults of all ages to get to know one another. While the young people engage in endless creative explorations, the adults enjoy talking about a bit of everything. Thanks again to Peggy Nicholson for helping us find a source and then contributing funds to get more comfy chairs for enjoying this outdoor space.

October 25 – Make a Difference Day

For more than two decades, on the fourth Saturday of October, millions of volunteers around the world unite in a common mission to improve the lives of others. This is a celebration of the power of people to make a difference. Class activities this day involved documenting some of the many ways that UU youth and adults make a difference in our world. Check out the display!

December 13 Muslim visitor

This youth program about Islamic beliefs and practices is an extension of our world religion curriculum last year, because our youth had many questions about Islam and Muslims. DeLaria Hafiz, from the local Islamic Center, will be joining us. She offered the Islamic thoughts during the 2014 Thanksgiving Interfaith service, and does other community outreach to promote mutual understanding. DeLaria will be doing the adult Downstairs Dialogue this same day. If parents would like to participate in that discussion, please talk with Beverly to arrange for teachers to arrive early.

Beverly Cree



Ania and Mehina creating with natural materials found on the playground

UU Biography

The Membership Committee will be introducing Members who joined our UU Fellowship in the recent past. Some entries will appear in the Quest and others by e-blast so that we can catch up with the 15 people who joined us the past year. Please take the time to read the bio of each person and discover what you may have in common with them or what you are surprised to learn! I will be summarizing for most folks but Vanessa is a talented writer and her entry is best left as is. Joyce Peterson is providing the photographs.

Cherie Dolgin

MEET CHUCK CHAMBERS



Other than living a few years of his youth in the Largo/Clearwater area, Athens, Ohio and Ann Arbor, Michigan, Chuck Chambers has lived his life in and around Dayton, Ohio. He was a city manager in Ohio until 1982. At that point, he went to law school and became a lawyer in Dayton, working at the same firm for 30 years. He specialized in commercial real estate and local government law.

Chuck was married to his wife, Linda, for 35 years, until she died of cancer in 2006. They have a daughter who resides in Michigan and a son who now lives in St. Augustine. Chuck moved to St. Augustine in 2008 to live with his mother who had Alzheimer's disease. Chuck's parents and only sibling, Cinder, moved from Ohio to Florida in the 1970's. Chuck's mother died in 2011 and several months later Cinder's husband died. Chuck has since lived with his sister at her Crescent Beach home.

From the time Chuck moved to St. Augustine in 2008, he was able to continue his law practice by working at home and commuting to Dayton twice a month. Since retiring from his firm just this past June 30th, Chuck now works part-time for his sister as a Property Manager.

Chuck is new to Unitarian Universalism. He decided to visit our Fellowship based on his readings about UU. Chuck considered himself a very spiritual person but did not feel like he was a good fit with traditional churches. Upon retirement, Chuck felt that he should find a spiritual home with open minded people. He hoped that this would include politics. Chuck says that as soon as he came to our Fellowship, he knew that he had come to the right place!

Chuck is already a member of the Finance Team and has participated in other events such as Highway Beautification and the Drum Circle. He looks forward to our Fellowship providing him with new doors to open. We welcome Chuck whole heartedly and are grateful for such a kind and inspiring new member! Please take the time to introduce yourself to Chuck.

(He is also a sharpshooter at our Friday night dart sessions. Don)

Great Decisions



The Great Decisions group meets the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. downstairs

Monday November 2 - Human Trafficking in the 21st Century

Human trafficking is a multibillion dollar business. The U.S. is one of the world's leading human trafficking importers. Why is this global exploitation tolerated?

Monday December 7 - Brazil's Metamorphosis

Brazil has risen to prominence in Latin America - but the scourge of historic income inequality, weak civic institutions, and poor leadership continue to restrain comprehensive development. What's in the future for U.S.-Latin America relations?

Please consider joining us. For more information, contact Yosi (461 3175 or jomcintire@bellsouth.net).

Guest at Your Table – 2015

This year, we will again be participating in the Guest At Your Table program during the Thanksgiving and Holiday seasons. It is sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), the worldwide human rights action component of our denomination, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

We will kick off the program on Sunday, November 1, after Halloween is behind us. Boxes will be distributed to each family, to be taken home and placed in a prominent location on your dinner table, a silent "Guest" to receive regular contributions toward the work of the UUSC around the world. Our kids will be introduced to the program in their classes, and will help distribute the boxes.

This year, the UUSC is focusing on aid and empowerment of refugees and displaced people, those most overlooked or discriminated against in the midst of humanitarian crises such as forced migration, large scale conflicts, genocide, and natural disasters. We get daily reminders of these disasters for our fellow humans just from watching the evening news on TV.

We are hoping that we who are more fortunate will be moved to be especially generous in this coming holiday time of thanksgiving and gift-giving, reminded of those who are less fortunate around our world.

Sometime after the holidays, we will collect the boxes, consolidate the proceeds of our combined generosity, and forward them to the UUSC. The boxes will happily receive coins, bills, and/or checks made out to UUFSA, with "GAYT" on the memo line.

***Thank you.
Charlie West, GAYT Coordinator***

Food Pantry October 2015

October was another active month at the St Augustine Ecumenical Food Pantry. UUFSA volunteers continued to provide critical services on our designated days to open the Pantry for assistance. According to the Pantry Board Secretary, the latest figures in food distribution show the number of bags distributed for September was 463, down from the historical high of 502 in August. So the figures still reflect the need for this vital service to the indigent households and homeless people who avail themselves of these services. The 463 bags extrapolated include 11,112 meals, 337 families, 511 adults, and 285 children. So the need for these services continues to be a challenge to those of us who participate. If we look at the figures YTD the demand is still there.

Your past generosity is not only very much appreciated but still necessary to the success of this outreach program. Thank you, too, for the Sunday plate donation because money is still a nice option to flesh out those areas where the Pantry is in short supply. Thanks also for the food contributions, remembering canned meats, etc. are still very much needed to round out the supply of available choices.

Your star volunteers at the Pantry for September were: Cherie Dolgin, Lou and Jill Cerulli, John Porter, Nana Royer, Lennie Gemski, Kathleen Paracer, and me. Everyone worked hard to make this a successful program.

Have a great November. The cooler weather must be coming soon!

Namaste.

*Guy Reid
UUFSA Food Pantry Coordinator*

Dining With Dignity

Our next opportunity to provide a nourishing meal for the homeless will be **Sunday, November 1, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** For more information, contact a member of the Dining With Dignity Team:

Mary Kellough, Nana Royer & Claudia Atkins



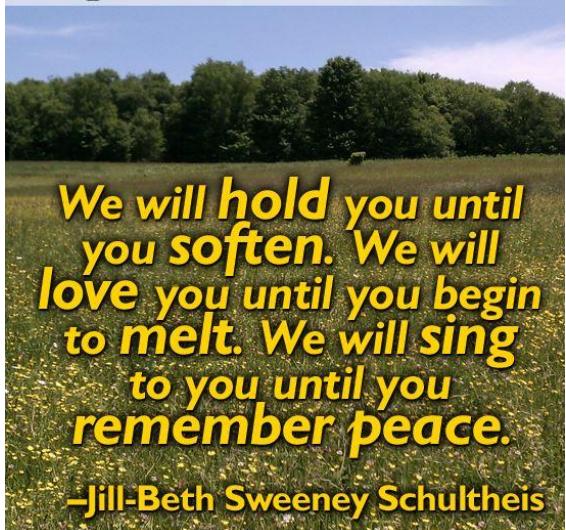
Care Connection



Our Care Connection Team 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

UUA.org  Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations



Dinners for Eight

Meet your fellow Unitarian Universalists by hosting a dinner or attending one. Stop by the table downstairs on Sundays to see signup sheets and/or ask questions. Make it easy on yourself...

Choose the best date and time.

Plan a dinner or a lunch

Have fewer than 8 people

You prepare the main course.

Attendees bring salad, veggies or dessert

Get ready for a good discussion and fun time.

Annette Jones



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Afternoon Book Club

We meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m., lower level of U.U.
If you cannot attend every meeting but are interested in a particular book, feel welcome to join us the month that it is discussed. For information contact Isobel Siegel 904-794-2293.

Reading List is for 2015-2016

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Nov. 17 | <i>Three Day Road</i> , by Joseph Boyden, led by Gale Burnick |
| Dec. 15 | <i>The Invention of Wings</i> , by Sue Monk Kidd, led Barbara Brenner |
| Jan. 19 | <i>The Burgess Boys</i> , by Elizabeth Strout, led by Joyce Peterson |
| Feb. 16 | <i>Crossing to Safety</i> , by Wallace Earle Stegner, led by Janet Jamal |
| March 15 | <i>Station 11</i> , by Emily St. John Mandel, led by Rita Golts |
| April 19 | <i>Sing You Home</i> , by Jodi Picoult, led by Isobel Siegel |
| May 17 | <i>On the Move: A Life</i> , by Oliver Stacks, led by Uldis Golts |
| June? | Lunch Date/Place/Time to be determined |



Drumming Circle



The Drumming Circle meets once each month at approximately the time of the full moon. This month the circle will get together on November 23 at 7:00 p.m. to drum and chant. Contact Nana Royer for more information (nanaroyer@gmail.com).



Movies

mUUvie Committee Presentation Friday, November 13, 6:30 p.m. *Soylent Green*

(1973) Mystery, Sci-Fi, Thriller - Starring Charlton Heston and Edward G. Robinson. With the world ravaged by the greenhouse effect and overpopulation, an NYPD detective investigates the murder of a CEO with ties to the world's main food supply. 3 wins & 1 nomination.



Palmer's Pick Friday, November 27, 6:30 p.m. *Nobody's Fool*



Starring Academy Award winner Paul Newman in a role made just for him. He is supported by another winner Jessica Tandy in one her last roles, also Bruce Willis and Melanie Griffin. Sully (Paul Newman) sixty years of age, working occasionally at construction jobs, who has avoided responsibilities most of life now finds himself having to take care of his son and grandson. Rotten Tomatoes ranks it 91% and Roger Ebert gives it four and half stars.

Remember you not only get to see a great movie but you also help out the funding committee. See ya at movies.

Palmer Short

Darts Nights

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

Palmer Short



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!



The view from Meditation Rock is spectacular.

SUUFI – Southern Unitarian Universalist Fall Institute in early October was delightful.

Lyn Klarman, Charlie West and Beverly Cree participated in a variety of inspiring workshops – about Buckminster Fuller and his innovative approach to understanding structures and the earth on which we live.

Other sessions included *Companionship Circles* for building positive relationships in organizations, pumpkin carving, exploring waterfalls, hiking, music, storytelling, and lots of fellowship with connections with old friends and making new friends. The drumming circles, led by an exceptional teacher, were enjoyed by many.

Please consider joining us next year for **SUUFI - Southern UU Fall Institute --October 2-7, 2016.**

The theme will be *Creativity: Enriching Our Lives*. Workshops will include many aspects of creativity – music, visual arts, storytelling, journaling, collage, outdoor experiences, creative problem-solving, etc. [Put it on your calendar](#) and stay tuned for more info.

Thanksgiving: November 25 – 29

For 36 years, The Mountain has hosted a traditional Thanksgiving celebration for family & friends. In addition to the festive and delicious groaning board, participants are filled with sharing, and fun activities. There are workshops, evening programs, bonfires and hot chocolate. Hardy souls hike Mountain trails while many gather round roaring stone fireplaces for storytelling, games, and relaxing. Activities may include: building traditional gingerbread houses, skits, journaling, ropes courses and field games, music-making, learning about the night sky, Cherokee traditions, or plants of The Mountain. This traditional weekend of blessings and thanks ends with Sunday Morning Community worship, full hearts and minds.



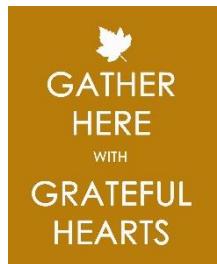
For more information about Mountain programs:
www.themountainrlc.org or 828.526.5838 or contact Lyn Klarman, Priscilla Gulliver or Beverly Cree at UUFS.

Plan now to be part of a Mountain program, personal retreat, or organizational meeting.

Register early to assure you are included.



SUUFI - Drumming Circle in the Woods





Buckman Bridge Events

8447 Manresa Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32244

The New Jim Crow and Black Lives Matter

You are invited to join in a six-week study/action workshop at Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church, based on two books and current events. The books are: Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the age of Colorblindness*, and Daniel Hunter, *Building a Movement to End the New Jim Crow: An Organizing Guide*. Both books are available from Amazon.com in paperback and Kindle editions and from other sources. Numerous video segments will also be brought into the discussions. The workshop sessions will meet 7:00-9:00 p.m. Wednesdays, January 13 – February 17, 2016, at BBUUC. Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/1LXieMI>

OWL for Young Adults age 18-35 and Adults 35+

Our Whole Lives for Young Adults age 18-35 and Adults 35+ is a series of workshops providing an overview of many aspects of human sexuality. It can provide a time to learn about an extraordinarily rich and complex area of human behavior, an opportunity to better understand sexuality and self, and a space for growth beyond present limits and concerns.

12:30-4:30 on Sundays, Feb. 21, 28 and March 6, 13, 20 at BBUUC.

Sessions facilitated by Michael and Tara Crisp and Colleen Goodwin. Please sign up with Stacy Asimos at admin@bbuuc.org. Child care will be available.

CUUPS

Wednesday November 4th 7:00-9:00 p.m.: NE Florida Pagan Leadership Coalition Meet and Greet.

Join CUUPS for a presentation by the NE Florida Pagan Leadership Coalition. We will be given a brief introduction to the NEFPLC and what they are striving for in the community.

Tuesday November 17th 7:00-9:00: How Pagans Give Thanks

This meeting will be an open discussion on the varied ways in which Pagans give thanks, whether it is a particular ritual type, paying it forward, a daily prayer devotional, etc. We will learn from each other about how to foster an attitude of gratitude and how that can benefit our lives

Contact cuups@bbuuc.org for more information or visit their website at www.JaxCUUPS.org

Religious Texts and Society

Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m., the Religious Texts and Society will discuss *The Gnostic Gospels* by Elaine Pagels.

Other Events

January 28-30, 2016 The Florida Interfaith Climate Action Network will hold its 2016 Conference on January 28-30 at Northland Church, Longwood FL. Members of all faiths are invited.

February 8-9, 2016 UU Justice Florida Legislative Day in Tallahassee.

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

