

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine Newsletter St. Augustine Beach, Florida

February 2019
2487 A1A South, St. Augustine, FL 32080
3/4 mile south of State Road 312

uufsacontact@gmail.com http://www.uufsa.org/

Fellowship services are held Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
A program for youth 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 our website.

In This Issue

From Your President	2
Sunday Programs	3-6
Roy Zimmerman Coffee House	7
Fundraising 2019	8
Children and Youth	
Other Announcements and Team Reports	10-15
Calendar	13
Beyond Our Congregation	16

Board of Trustees 2018 - 2019

President	Chuck Chambers
Vice President	Bill Maguire
Secretary	Rosi Angeli
Treasurer	Barbara Battelle
Trustee, past president	Robin Mahonen
Trustee	Don Brandes
Trustee	Annette Jones



The *Quest* is published monthly September through July. Materials for the March issue are due by February 15.

Don Brandes, Editor: donaldbrandes@gmail.com
Thanks to Charlie West and Adele DelSavio for proofreading.



From Your President



We are reminded of the limited time we all have living on this Beautiful Blue Marble with the passing of Shannon Barry and Abe Cohen. Let us all use their passing to rededicate ourselves to loving those in our lives and living a life that we love.

The life that I love includes a lot of time and events at UUFSA and with friends from UUFSA. If you seek more activities, interactions and friends in your life, consider the wealth of opportunities the UU offers. By the way, all of these items and more are covered in more detail here in the Quest each month.

Let us review some of the opportunities. Attending services and coffee hour. Sure. That's pretty much what we all do. Want to do more? Two easy ways: SHOW UP for one the activities shown below. VOLUNTEER for UUFSA matters — More on this below.

How about joining us for darts downstairs every other Friday night at 7:00 p.m. Palmer makes it happen. No experience required. None. Really. We even have darts! Bring your own beverages.

Join the Adult Learning series on *The Meaning of Life* hosted by Surindar Paracer and Charlie West every other Thursday at 5:30 p.m. This combination of Great Course video and directed discussion is covering a lot of territory. It is free and no prior attendance is required. Just show up downstairs.

Join the UUFSA Book Group. It meets once a month on the third Tuesday at 1:00. Contact Bobbie Brenner for details. She says you can come even if you have not read the book.

Come by and watch a movie on Movie Night. One Friday a month Palmer picks a great classic and we screen it in the Fellowship Hall.

About VOLUNTEERING. The lifeblood of this congregation is Volunteers. YOU are wanted and needed. Find a new activity and volunteer. Hospitality Chair is desperately needed. Coffee Hour is about to be coffee only, if that, if we don't get a volunteer NOW. How about Care Connection? Dining with Dignity? Food Pantry? Fundraising? Helping Mary with Building and Grounds? Assist with Audio Visual that is needed every week.

The need for more Volunteers is critical. Pick something you like. Say YES when someone asks you to help. We all have other obligations in our lives, but we also all have time and effort we can give. Every minute you give to the UUFSA enriches your life. You learn and you meet and create new friendships. This is a gift waiting for you. Take advantage of it.

I suggest that volunteering and participating is a way to honor Shanon Barry, Abe Cohen, Priscilla Caine and others who have passed on before. Take advantage of the opportunities.

Chuck Chambers 904-679-1853 Johnchuck1@yahoo.com

Sunday, February 3, 10:30 a.m. "Buddhism on the Battlefield" Jane Mahoney, PhD

Service Leader: Chris McDermott Music: Alex Soltow Chalice Lighter: Richelle Ogle



'Engaged Buddhism' is a unique form of social activism, intimately linked with human suffering and deeply rooted in core Buddhist values. This talk offers a first-hand account of how Engaged Buddhism served as a catalyst for peace, stability and renewal in Cambodia, following decades of war, political unrest and crimes against humanity.

You'll 'meet' a humble monk who inspired his nation through atypical actions — defying military orders, hugging the Pope, ordaining trees, advising the UN and leading hundreds of pilgrims across battlefields. This was the late Samdech Preah Maha Ghosananda, a joyful man, often called 'Gandhi of Cambodia.'

Ghosananda's activism was inspired by the Buddha's words, 'Hatred can only be healed by Love.'

This talk emphasizes 'being Peace.' It resonates with the UUFSA Spoken Covenant, 'Love is the doctrine of this congregation ... and service its prayer.'

Jane Mahoney met Maha Ghosananda in 1980, as she interviewed him for a PBS documentary. She describes Maha Ghosananda as 'the happiest person I've ever met," and she has practiced Theravada Buddhism ever since that day. Jane supported Maha Ghosananda's Engaged Buddhism initiatives from 1980 until his death in 2007.

After retiring from MasterCard International as a technology executive, Jane moved to St. Augustine. She now serves as Buddhist representative for the St. Augustine Interfaith Community, a Board Member of the St. Augustine Film Society and an Advisory Member of Fort Mose Historical Society. She enjoys travel and the arts. Jane often lectures on the topics of Buddhism, AI (Artifical Intelligence), and the intersection of Buddhism and AI. She is a longtime Friend of UUFSA.



Sunday, February 10, 10:30 a.m. "Fredrick Douglass" John H. Anderson Jr.

Service Leader: Palmer Short
Music: Taffy Rook
This I Believe: Jerome Fosaaen
Family and Children Chalice Lighting



John H. Anderson as Frederick Douglass

John H. Anderson Jr. is a retired analytical chemist with the Florida Department of Agriculture. He has a BS in Chemistry and a BA in Music Therapy with a minor in Psychology from Florida State University. His hobbies include musicianship, poetry, songwriting and 70s – era automotive mechanics. He grew up in Daytona Beach and currently resides in Tallahassee, Florida.

One of Anderson's passions is history — specifically Civil War history — which he embodies when he puts on historically accurate clothing and performs as freed slave turned abolitionist author, Frederick Douglass.

Anderson speaks, as Douglass, about the political and sociological impacts of the violent and unstable time period and how African Americans helped shape the nation we live in today.

John H Anderson, Jr. is the son of a professional story teller and Civil War re-enactors Mary and the late Joel Fears. His mother had always been deeply troubled by the neglect and the tremendously false impressions most historians had given of the slaves and free persons of color regarding their direct participation in the development of our nation. They set out to tell the stories and present inspirational stage programs about the lives and unknown contributions of Americans of African descent from this era.

His goal is to have everyone present feel enlightened and proud to be an American descendant of our United States history in general, regardless of which side our ancestors stood on during our Civil War. He speaks to all races, all ages and all cultural backgrounds with that simple goal in mind.

He is a frequent presenter at local civic programs such as the Annual Battle of Olustee Festival, the main speaker at the annual Emancipation Day commemoration held at the historical Knott House Museum in Tallahassee Florida, the Annual Battle of Natural Bridge, and the annual Ocali Days Festival, Silver River Museum, as well as Florida A M University in the Black Archives and Research Museum. He played a leading role in the documentary film "Filling the Gap." written by his mother, Mary Fears.

Sunday, February 17, 10:30 a.m. "The Struggle Continues!" Rodney L. Hurst Sr.

Service Leader: Jerome Fosaaen Music: Taffy Rook Third Sunday Food Collection Third Plate Donation: Children's Choice



History as it is usually told ignores those Blacks who fought for equality and justice against great odds while also fighting against the racism of America. Rodney Lawrence Hurst, Sr. doesn't know which is worse – for people to knowingly make blatantly racist comments, or for them to be blissfully ignorant of the fact that their comments are racist. This ridiculous lack of honesty coincides with our country's apparent penchant to seek a return to its past racist attitudes. It is easier to think that relations are getting better when you are not bering the brunt of racism. The Struggle Continues!

Rodney Lawrence Hurst, Sr. is a civil rights activist, a Black historian, and the author of two award-winning books, *It was never about a hot dog and a Coke*[®]!, a personal account of the 1960 sit-in demonstrations in Jacksonville, Florida and Ax Handle Saturday, and *Unless WE Tell It ... It Never Gets Told*!

Hurst was the sixteen-year-old President of the Jacksonville Youth Council NAACP and was one of the leaders of the 1960 sit-in demonstrations. *It*

was never about a hot dog and a Coke[®]! is the winner of more than a dozen awards, including the 2008 USA National Best Books Awards national book competition First Place Gold Medal Award for Multicultural Nonfiction.

His second book, *Unless WE Tell It ... It Never Gets Told!*, published in January 2016, relates stories of notable Blacks of Jacksonville who impacted this city and the country. It was recently honored as one of five finalists for the 2016 Multicultural Non-Fiction Award by the National Best Books Awards national book competition; and the 2017 Jacksonville Historical Preservation Commission Award.

In addition to his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, Hurst served two four-year terms on the Jacksonville City Council. He is responsible for a number of "firsts" in the Jacksonville Community: He was one of the thirteen original national recipients of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Television fellowships; he was the first Black to co-host a television talk show in Jacksonville; he was the first Black male hired at the Prudential South Central Home Office in Jacksonville, Florida; and he was the first Black to serve as the Executive Director of the State of Florida's Construction Industry Licensing Board. A Life Member of the NAACP, Hurst is involved with a number of boards and agencies in the Jacksonville Community. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force.

Hurst periodically teaches a Black History, Civil Rights, and Racism class at the University of North Florida. He also teaches a class on old – school music, specifically Classic Old – School R&B and Classic Motown.

Hurst is the recipient of numerous awards including the Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Visionary Award given by the National Alumni Association of Bethune – Cookman University, the Outstanding Alumnus Award by the National Alumni Association of Edward Waters College, the President's Award by the President of the Jacksonville Branch NAACP, and the Jacksonville, Florida OneJax Silver Medallion Humanitarian Award.

www.rodneyhurst.com

Sunday, February 24, 10:30 a.m. "RIZE UP" Roy Zimmerman

Service Leader: Ed Mahonen Music: Alex Soltow

In the current national nightmare, we need to laugh. And we need to hope. Roy Zimmerman's signature blend of heart and hilarity has never been more necessary.

In a career spanning more than thirty years, Roy's songs have been heard on HBO and Showtime, and he has recorded for Warner/Reprise Records. Roy has shared stages with Bill Maher, Ellen DeGeneres, Holly Near, Robin Williams, Arlo Guthrie, John Oliver, The Roches, Andy Borowitz, The Chambers Brothers, Kate Clinton and George Carlin.

RiZe UP is Roy's tenth album release as a solo artist. It's a funny and forceful expression of resistance in the age of Trump. "Satire empowers people," says Roy. "To laugh is to fight back. To hope is to fight back."



Roy co-writes with his wife, Melanie Harby. Melanie is a three-time West Coast bluegrass guitar champion, and an original Broadway cast member of *Quilters*. Melanie's children's picture book *All Aboard for Dreamland* is published by Simon and Schuster.

Roy and Melanie collaborated with the late great Anita O'Day, and have also written hundreds of children's songs for Disney, Warner Bros, Looney Tunes, and McGraw – and Hill. Roy and Melanie tour the country constantly bringing laughter and encouragement to the "Blue Dots" – the most progressive people in some of the least progressive places in the nation.

"Roy's lyrics move beyond poetry and achieve perfection." ~Joni Mitchell

"Lyrical brilliance, just excellent." ~ 'Weird Al' Yankovic

"Zimmerman displays a lacerating wit and keen awareness of society's foibles that bring to mind a latter-day Tom Lehrer." ~ Los Angeles Times

http://www.royzimmerman.com/



UUFSA Garage Sale Saturday, March 23 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Spring cleaning coming up? Do you have some unwanted Christmas presents? Other stuff that just isn't needed anymore? Let's Recycle!

The UUFSA is holding a Garage Sale. Donate, buy (One person's trash is another's treasure.), volunteer. This will be our single biggest fundraiser of the year, in place of the Service Auction, which is being given a rest this year.

Starting now we are collecting items for sale at our Garage Sale. Please place items in a box and label it. Put it in the downstairs Meditation Room.

VOLUNTEERING – The Garage Sale needs many volunteers to be a success. We will have a Bake Sale as a part of the fundraiser. Our needs include:

- Cashiers
- Sales People
- Pricing Helpers on Friday March 22nd
- Set Up Helpers on Friday March 22nd
- A Truck or Van
- Coffee Maker and Host

There is a volunteer sign – up list downstairs at the UUFSA or call Annette Jones. There will be a planning meeting in February. Time to be determined.

Call Annette Jones at 904-417-0617 for more information. Consider volunteering.



Valentine's Day "Love Fundraiser"

Valentine's Day is coming. Love is the doctrine of our Fellowship, so we'll be celebrating Cupid with a "Love Fundraiser," to help finance our many activities. When you receive the notice, please be a sweetheart and contribute.

Programs for Children and Youth



As Christmas approached at the UUFSA, adults and children participated together in a fun Wonder Box intergenerational story with Rev. Elizabeth Teal.





In the New Year, we said farewell (temporarily, we hope) to John and Lili Goff as they sailed into the sun with their parents on the family's catamaran. We wish them fair winds, calm seas and grand adventures. And we hope to see them again soon.

Children who remained with us on Terra Firma had fun thinking about what they would like to accomplish in the coming year with a game called New Year Bingo.

They also had a surprise visit from authors and illustrators of children's books, our own Barbara Brenner and her friend Melanie Hall. With Barbara and Melanie, the children read poems about weather and created their own illustrations for the poem. Thank you





created their own illustrations for the poem. Thank you Barbara and Melanie!









Finally, we wish to thank the members of Boy Scout Troop 205 and their mentors for the great work they did weeding and spreading mulch in our play yard!



We hope all of our families have had a wonderful start to the New Year!

Social Concerns UU Justice Legislative Days in Tallahassee March 11-12.

We will be bringing the voice of Unitarian Universalist values to the state legislative halls. If you are a UU member, your overnight stay is paid for. There's an orientation to the bills which you'll be supporting, then a dinner, then a visit to the legislature the next day. Deadline for signup is February 8, but register as soon as possible as Indivisible groups are also interested. Sign up here: http://www.uujusticefl.org/BookingRetrieve.aspx?ID=127797

Nana Royer nana@nrdp.net

Monthly Farmer's Market at UUFSA Sunday February 17th

There will be a selection of in – season local produce as well as other fresh favorites for sale. Bring your shopping list and reusable bags and come see us in the back yard after the service.

Please contact Mark Shuford if you are interested in helping or have any questions. 904-347-4195, kpelovitz@hotmail.com



Solar Fund



THANK YOU for your outstanding support of the solar project – though donations, purchasing solar lights and poinsettias.

The total cost is \$43,000 and together we have collected about \$37,000. Although the Board has agreed to cover the remaining cost, those savings provide a security fund for our congregation.

Every additional contribution will be helpful – please consider supporting this project – living our values in a very tangible way. We are almost there!

Using more renewables means lowering emissions. Lowering emissions makes the world a better place for all of us. The solar energy project will result in our UU congregation CO₂ emissions being decreased by about 100 million metric tons. We are making a difference!

"The Meaning of Life" Wisdom and Knowledge from the World's Great Intellectual Traditions Thursday, February 14 and 28, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

The Bhagavad Gita (in three parts)

In January 2019, we concentrated our attention on Choice and Daily Life and on Discipline and Duty.

On February 14th Third and the last session on Bhagavad Gita

This session shifts our attention to the **Union and Purpose**. Even though the cosmos is vast, each life has its place in it. The meaning of life comes to us when Krishna reveals himself to be the universe embodied in a single being.



I am the Self that dwells in the Heart of every mortal creature; I am the beginning, the life span, And end of all.
I am the radiant sun among the Light-givers; I am the mind;
I am consciousness in the living I am death that snatches all;
I, also, am the source of all that Shall be born.

I am time without end; I am the sustainer: my face is everywhere (From Readings, 611, UU *Singing the Living Tradition*)

On February 28th, Confucianism

What we have here is less of a religion than a secular morality. Confucius' ideas have formed the common core of traditional Chinese beliefs. He argued for strong family loyalty, ancestor worship, respect of elders by their children and the family as basis for ideal government.

Golden Rule: "Do not do unto others what you don't not want done to yourself."

We extend our warm welcome to all. Please come and join us.



Contact Surindar Paracer (904-217-3802 <u>sparacer@worcester.edu</u>) or Charlie West (904-471-0335, <u>westjrcw@gmail.com</u>) for more information. Co-chairs – UUFSA Adult Learning

Downstairs Dialogue will not meet in February.



Great Decisions "Refugees and Global Migration" February 18, 2019.

Great Decisions is an initiative of the Foreign Policy Association – see http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/. We examine interesting topics through the lens of US foreign policy. In 2019, we will meet from February to June, and then again from September to November on the second Monday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00.

The Foreign Policy Association has proposed the following topics:

- March: "The Middle East: Regional Disorder"
- April: "Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?"
- May: "The Rise of Populism"
- June: "Decoding U.S. China Trade"
- July and August: Summer break
- September: "India and Its Neighbors"
- October: "Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics"
- November: "State of the State Department and Diplomacy" (dates subject to change)

The discussions are always stimulating. We encourage you to come! For more information, please contact Yosi at jomcintire@bellsouth.net or 904-461-3175.

Quigong Classes Starting Wednesday, February 6, 4:30 p.m.

Bob and Fran German are offering free Qigong classes for anyone interested, on Wednesdays beginning February 6 and going through March at our fellowship. A voluntary donation will be accepted, with any proceeds going to an international project to stop human trafficking.

Qigong means "energy practice." It is an ancient Chinese system of health and wellness. It consists of a series of simple stretches, gentle exercises and flowing movements. Qigong is fun and easy! Everyone goes at their own comfort level. Newcomers are always welcome!

The benefits are many, including increasing energy, lowering stress levels, improving circulation, assisting the respiratory and digestive systems, reducing blood pressure, better sleep, improving balance, more flexibility, and reversing the aging process. Be sure you have approval from your doctor before starting this and any exercise program.

Contact Bob or Fran at bobnfran@gmail.com

Flowers

Please consider bringing flowers for the front of our Fellowship Hall on any Sunday. It is a lovely gesture, brings beauty to the UUFSA, and is a great way to remember or honor a loved one. Annette Jones is in charge of the Flowers. Please let her know when you can do this. See Annette or call her at 904-417-0617.



February Calendar



- 1 Darts 7:00 9:00 p.m.
- 3 Dining with Dignity 6:00 7:00 p.m.
- 4 Program Team 5:00 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Qigong classes begin 4:30 p.m.
- 7 Indivisible 7:00 9:00 p.m.
- 8 Food Pantry 1:00 4:00 p.m.
- 11 Board of Trustees meeting 6:00 8:30 p.m.
- 13 Qigong class 4:30 p.m.
- 14 The Meaning of Life Adult Ed. 5:30 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Deadline for March Quest contributions
- 15 Darts 7:00 9:00 p.m.
- 17 Children and Youth food collection at Sunday service
- 17 Farmers Market after service
- 18 Great Decisions 6:00 8:00 p.m.
- 19 Book Group 1:00 2:45
- 20 Qigong class 4:30 p.m.
- 22 Food Pantry 1:00 4:00 p.m.
- 22 Movie, Somewhere In Time 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Roy Zimmerman Coffee House 6:00 8:30 p.m.
- 27 Qigong class 4:30 p.m.
- 28 The Meaning of Life Adult Ed. 5:30 7:00 p.m.

January UUFSA Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report and a summary of that report are posted on the UUFSA News bulletin board downstairs.

From the Food Pantry



This Valentine's Day, think about making someone else feel special. You can do this easily at our Fellowship by contributing monetarily to the Food Pantry, which serves St. Johns County. Just drop a check in the collection basket, during a February service, made out to UUFSA. Remember to write Food Pantry on the memo line.

Or bring a few canned good items and place them in the basket, located next to the Tom May table, in the entryway of the Fellowship. Either way, you will have made a financially needy person's Valentine's Day much brighter!

Thank you for your generosity.

Cherie Dolgin UUFSA Food Pantry Coordinator 904-461-1604

Dining With Dignity

Our next opportunity to provide a nourishing meal for the homeless will be **Sunday, February 3, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** For more information, contact a member of the Dining with Dignity Team:

Mary Kellough, 904-217-9837 Toni Wallace, 904-501-9449



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 serves everyone in our Fellowship willing to receive and give support at times of difficulty. Contact one of our members listed below if you are in need of assistance or would like to be involved in the Care Connection Team. We accept and appreciate donations.

Claudia Atkins, Chair	386 -717 -6765	Maureen Herth	904-463-1032
Adele DelSavio	315-529-6287	Cynthia McAuliffe	904-863-1303
Cherie Dolgin	904 -461 -1604	Rosemary Wheeler	352-339-4157
JoAnne Engelbert	904-460-1190	Anne Wilke	904-797-1944

UUFSA Book Group February 19, at 1:00 p.m.



The next meeting of the Book Group will be Tuesday, Feb. 19. Our book discussion will be on *Manhattan Beach*, by prize-winning American author Jennifer Egan. Discussion leader this month will be Barbara Brenner. Interested book – lovers welcome.

Come join us and sit in, even if you haven't read the book. Friends of UUs are welcome.

Bobbie Brenner Group Coordinator

Palmer's Pic February 22, 6:30 p.m.

Somewhere In Time

The movie for February is **Somewhere In Time** starring Christopher Reeve, Jane Seymour, and Christopher Plummer. Have you ever had the desire to return to another time in the past? This is the story of someone who did just that and found he had actually been there before. That's all I can say; come see how he fares.

Palmer

Friday Darts Nights February 1 and 15, 7:00 p.m.



Darts nights are held at the Pub UU (downstairs at UUFSA) at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month and the fifth Friday if there is one. Contact Palmer Short, palshort@gmail.com, for details.

Beyond Our Congregation





For information about events beyond our Fellowship, check the UUA Southern Region event calendar at http://www.uuasouthernregion.org/home.html and the UUA website at http://www.uua.org/

Florida UU Women's Retreat

April 5-7, 2019, Florida UU Women's Retreat, Parrish, FL (Near Bradenton)

Happenings at The Mountain



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

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

Additional 2019 Program	s:
Music Week	Apríl 21-26
Womenspirit	May 25-19
Youth Mountain Camp &	
<i>Farm Camp</i>	June-July
Climate Justice	August 4-9
Aging to Saging	October 6-10



For more information: www.TheMountainRLC.org or 828-526-5838 or contact Beverly Cree at UUFSA.