

QUEST



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

June 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.

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Trustee	Don Brandes
Trustee	Annette Jones



The *Quest* is published monthly September through July.

Materials for the July – August issue are due by June 21.

Don Brandes, Editor: donaldbrandes@gmail.com

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David Wright for printing each issue of the *Quest*.



From Your President



This is my final *Quest* article as president of the UUFSA. What a ride it has been! Just a moment ago I was writing my first president's column. A recap is in order, for me, at least.

A year ago:

Rev. Tom Schmidt moved to Minnesota. Your new president had almost no experience with a lay-led congregation. I had some concerns. I had stepped into a UU church for the first time only a little over three years earlier. And, I hadn't been to a church of any type regularly for well over 40 years. Was I worried? Heck, yeah.

Pieces started to fall into place.

- The Board was strong.
- The Program Team pushed through and provided us a year's worth of great programs.
- Barbara had a great background on the financial side.
- Then – Boom! The power went out. Smoke! A power surge compliments of FPL. No more water heater. The refrigerator didn't work. Neither did the stove or microwave. The alarm system was fried. What to do? Who to call? They say it takes a village. I say it takes a UU congregation. Help came from many directions. In the end we had some new appliances, a freshly painted kitchen, new water heater, new alarm system board, and a nice check from the insurance company.
- I made a trip to the Mountain! My first. Fabulous.
- The Beautification Team continued to update and beautify, as funds permitted.
- The Adult Learning Team donated a TV and DVD player and began a series of programs on the Meaning of Life. Perfect UU material, if I may say so. And it's my column so I may say so.
- The garage sale was a wonderful sharing experience for all involved.
- Solar – -it actually happened! We should all be proud. We put our money where our mouth is. We walked the walk, not just talked the talk. Every time I drive by, I feel happy to be part of an organization willing to step up and make that happen.

At times, I began to feel a little overwhelmed by the job. But then I learned that all I had to do was let others know I was struggling a little. Suddenly help appeared. In many forms, from many sources. Thank you to all of you. It really did help me a lot!

A year later, I realize that the job is not that big or difficult. Like most new things, it seems a little overwhelming as you begin. But now, a year later, I realize the list of tasks is very manageable.

I know Jerome will hit the ground running since he has had this experience before.

I will be there next year as the past president, ready to continue to learn and grow from this UU experience. It has truly been my pleasure to serve you. Thanks for the opportunity.

Chuck Chambers

904-679-1853

Johnchuck1@yahoo.com

Sunday, June 2, 10:30 a.m.

“Unpacking White Supremacy”

Rev. Phillip Baber

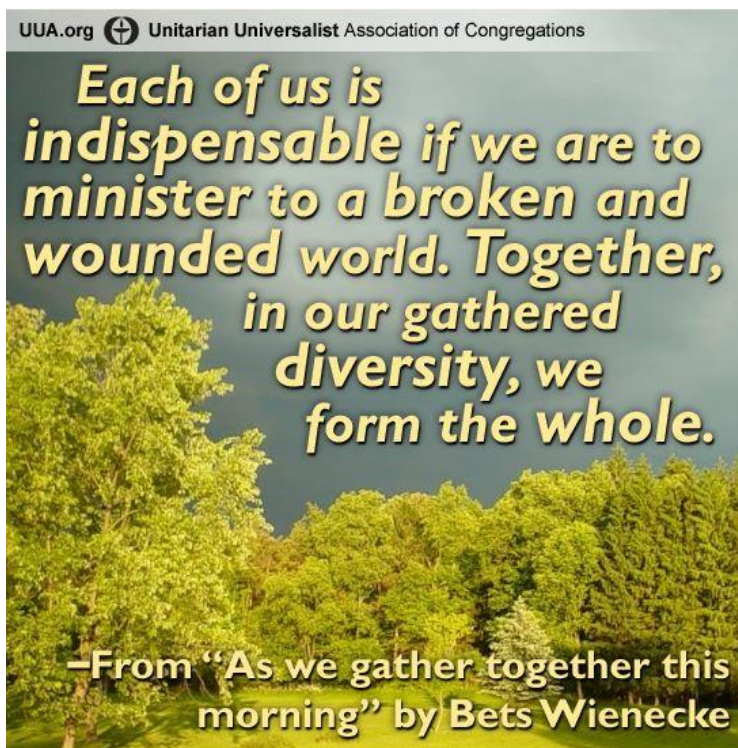
Service Leader: Richelle Ogle

Music: Alex Soltow

Story for All Ages

Racism comes in many forms. The term "white supremacy" has often been applied narrowly to refer only to the most overt and heinous expressions of racism. In this sermon, we will examine the argument for a more expansive definition that will uncover the subtle ways that whiteness is so often centered in our actions, words, and thoughts.

Phillip Baber is the former pastor of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Jacksonville. He is also a former co-president of I.C.A.R.E., the Jacksonville-based Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation, and Empowerment. Phillip's ministry is dedicated to the advancement of our collective liberation, leading him to advocate in support of criminal justice reform, police accountability, racial and economic justice, justice for refugees and immigrants, and LGBTQIA+ rights. Phillip's faith calls him to boldly declare that Black Lives Matter, No human is illegal, and women's rights are human rights.



Sunday, June 9, 10:30 a.m.
“Growing Up, Not Out, and Other Ideas for the Future”

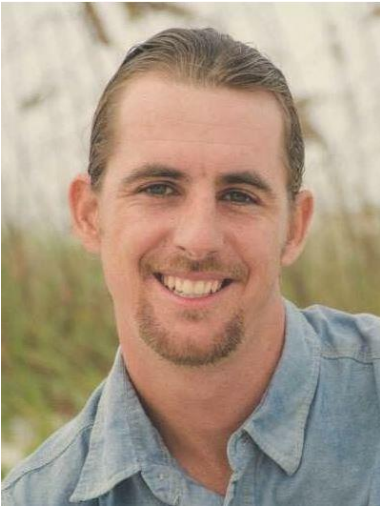
Adam Morley

Service Leader: Nana Royer

Music: Taffy Rook

Chalice Lighting by Family and Children

This I Believe: To Be Announced



A look into the future of farming, waste management, and energy production.

Adam Morley is an award winning environmental leader, entrepreneur, boat captain and informal educator. He has been recognized as one of North Florida's next generation of environmental leaders by the Public Trust Law, is the recipient of the 2017 Green Living Award from the Florida Wildlife Foundation, and was voted “Best Environmental Activist” in the Best of St. Augustine issue of Folio Weekly. His efforts locally got him awarded the Environmental Stewardship Award from the City of St. Augustine Beach and he was recently selected as one of the 40 under 40 in St. Johns County by the St. Augustine Record. None of which would have been possible without the support of his wife, Janine, and the inspiration his son, Elon, brings him.



Sunday, June 16, 10:30 a.m.
Father's Day and Flower Communion
**“Thousands of Miles of Parental Love,
Desperation, and Hope”**
Calvin Marshall and Patricia Maguire

Service Leader: Chris McDermott

Music: Alex Soltow

Third Sunday Food Collection

Third Sunday Cash Plate Donation: K-9s for Warriors

Imagine loving your children so much that you would walk, bus, and pay a shady human smuggler your life savings to take a precarious, dangerous, and challenging thousand plus mile journey to a hope of safety. On this Father's Day, Cal Marshall and Pat Maguire will discuss their recent experiences at the southwest border, volunteering with asylum-seeking migrants after their release by US ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement). These migrants await their asylum adjudication hearings.

Calvin Marshall and Patricia Maguire are members of our fellowship. Cal is a retired emergency room nurse, and Pat is Professor Emeritus at Western New Mexico University.

We are also celebrating our “Flower Communion” today. The Flower Communion is a traditional UU ritual that celebrates beauty, diversity and community. Everyone in the congregation brings a flower and places their flower with all the others in a shared vase. Each person takes home a different flower than the one they brought.

Remember to bring a flower to the service this morning. If you forget, or do not have access to fresh flowers, some will be provided at the Greeter's Table. Please also feel free to bring a photo or other remembrance of your father to place on our altar.



Refugee Photo by Mark Lambie of the El Paso Times

Sunday, June 23, 10:30 a.m.
“We Believe in Second Chances”
Caren Goldman

Service Leader: Robin Mahonen

Music: Alex Soltow

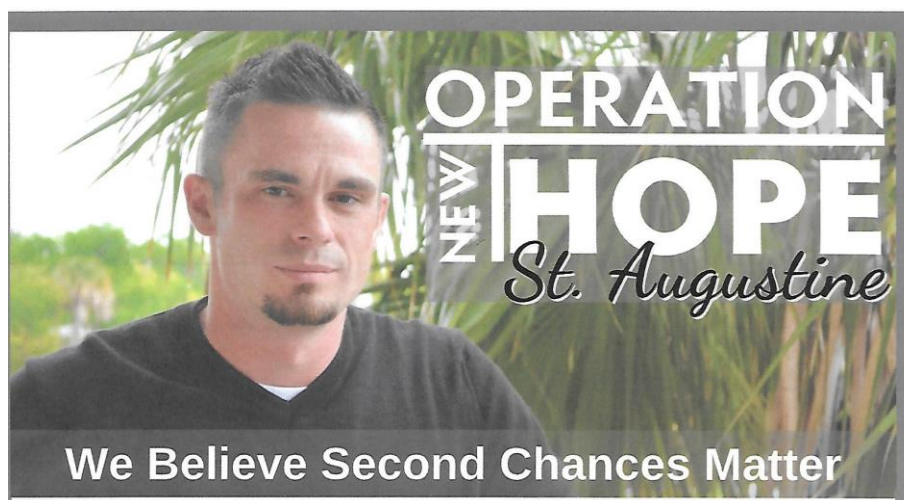
Men and women face many challenges integrating back into the community after incarceration. This has led to a national epidemic of recidivism* and adversely impacts the already disadvantaged communities to which they return. To break this cycle, the formerly incarcerated need a second chance to gain sustainable employment and the social skills to become productive citizens. There is a solution that works with a 20-year track record of reducing the recidivism rate in half.

The mission of Operation New Hope is to provide support, and life and job skills training to the formerly incarcerated and place them in employment that offers a sustainable quality of life. Community partners and the judicial system motivate and move individuals to become productive, responsible citizens within the community.

Caren is the Executive Director and Founder of Compassionate St. Augustine, the organization that has spearheaded the effort to bring Operation New Hope's first branch office to St. Augustine. She is a founder and board member of the Cyprian Center for Expressive Arts and also serves on Flagler College's Usdin Lecture Series Committee, OneJax's Interfaith Council, and the Advisory Boards of The Golden Way: Films That Make A Difference, and Compassion In Action Criminal Justice Reform.

Locally, Caren is the recipient of the Recognizing Outstanding Women in the Arts (ROWITA) Award and the 2018 Stetson Kennedy Foundation's Fellow Man and Mother Earth Award. Her career as an award-winning professional investigative and features journalist, magazine writer, and author spans over 40 years. She is the author of six nonfiction books. In 2011, her book *Restoring Life's Missing Pieces* was named a Best Spiritual Book of that year. She, Ted, and Karma and Micah, their amazing four-legged rescues and spiritual guides, have lived in St. Augustine since 2007.

www.compassionstaugustine.org



Sunday, June 30, 10:30 a.m.
“Drive All Blames into One”
Rev. Billy Thomas

Service Leader: Palmer Short
Music: Taffy Rook

“Drive all blames into one means that all the problems and the complications that exist around our practice, realization, and understanding are not somebody else’s fault. All the blame always starts with ourselves.” Training the mind, and cultivating loving-kindness is a teaching by Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche. The book *Training The Mind* is used extensively by students in the lineages of Tibetan Buddhism. The fifty-nine slogans and the commentary by Rinpoche have helped Dharma students for more than eight centuries focus on the most important practices for training our minds for life and enlightenment. It is indeed liberating to understand and put into practice being our genuine selves with all that means.



Rev. Billy Thomas is currently the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Florida State College at Jacksonville, a doctoral student at the University of South Florida and, most importantly, father to Matthew, Amelia and Teddy. He has been practicing meditation and Buddhism for almost 25 years now and directs the Amelia Island Karma Kagyu Study Group in Fernandina Beach. An avid motorcyclist, he rides almost every day and when he is not on his motorcycle he enjoys kayaking.



A Few Notes from Your Program Team

Thank you for the honor of serving this fellowship for the past year, a challenge given our transition back to the status of a lay – led fellowship. We hope you have been inspired and grown and learned something more of yourself and the world by your presence among us on Sunday mornings.

We invite you to become involved in the planning of our Sunday morning programs by joining the Program Team. We meet on the first Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in the social hall.

We are, as always, looking for more members to volunteer as service leaders. Each Sunday is facilitated by a member of the team who conducts the service and provides supportive readings.

We thank Charlie West for his longtime service to this team. He is stepping down from the team, and as coordinator of the “This I Believe” segments. We hope that someone may be inspired to step forth to coordinate congregation speakers for these segments, delivered on the second Sunday of every month.

In fact, we need a speaker for June 2019;, this spot is presently “To Be Announced.”

We would like to continue to encourage congregation members to share their talents and time as speakers. Perhaps you have an aspect of your spiritual journey you'd like to share with your spiritual family. Last year, 20 of our services were provided by congregation members.

As Program Team Chair, Robin Mahonen is always interested to hear your feedback on outside speakers and topics presented in the last year. We like to keep our finger on the pulse of what interests you, and keep you coming back to UUFSa. If you know of someone who you think would make a great speaker for us, let us know! If there were particular speakers or topics you liked, or didn't, let us know! Drop Robin an email at RRafael2@aol.com with your comments.

Have a wonderful summer!

There will be NO Sunday morning programming during the month of July, and for the first two Sundays in August.

Sunday Services will resume on Sunday, August 18th, with a presentation by Sandra Parks, on the topic of civility.

The UUFSA has a position open for a lead teacher in our Program for Children and Youth Beginning August 1

Position: Lead Teacher in our Program for Children and Youth

Where: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine (UUFSA)
2487 A1A South, St. Augustine, Florida 32080

When: For two hours every Sunday from 10:15 AM – 12:15 PM
Beginning August 1 through December 31, 2019 with the
possibility of an extension through June 30, 2020.

Compensation: \$60/Sunday

Brief Job Description:

- Prepare and present lessons based on UUA curriculum for school-aged children. An additional staff person will be available for care of infants and toddlers.
- Present an intergenerational story one Sunday each month in the sanctuary.
- For a more detailed job description, contact Barbara Battelle (904-540-3720).

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of (or a willingness to learn about) Unitarian Universalism and a respect for our values and traditions.
- Experience or training in early childhood development is highly desirable but not required.

To apply:

Please submit a cover letter describing why you are interested in this opportunity and any relevant experience. Also include a resume describing your educational background, work experience and contacts for three professional references. Please submit your application via email to Barbara Battelle (battellebarbara@gmail.com) with the subject line "Children/Youth Teacher." All attachments should include the applicant's last name in the file name. Contact Barbara Battelle if you would like more information about this position (904-540-3720).

To learn more about our Fellowship and our denomination check out our website: UUFSA.org and the website of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA.org)

The UUFSA has a position open for a Child Care Provider Beginning August 1

Position: Child Care Provider

Where: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine (UUFSA)
2487 A1A South, St. Augustine, Florida 32080

When: For two hours every Sunday from 10:15 AM – 12:15 PM
Beginning August 1 through December 31, 2019 with the
possibility of an extension through June 30, 2020

Compensation: \$25/Sunday

Brief job description:

- Provide safe and nurturing care for children from infants to age 4.
- Collaborate with a lead teacher or the Children/Youth Program Team to design and present age-appropriate engaging activities for these children.
- Knowledge of (or a willingness to learn about) Unitarian Universalism and a respect for our values and traditions.
- Experience or training in early childhood development highly desirable but not required.

To apply:

Please submit a cover letter describing why you are interested in this opportunity and any relevant experience. Also include a resume describing your educational background, work experience and contacts for three professional references. Please submit your application via email to Barbara Battelle (battellebarbara@gmail.com) with the subject line "Children/Youth Child Care." All attachments should include the applicant's last name in the file name. Contact Barbara Battelle if you would like more information about this position (904-540-3720).

To learn more about our Fellowship and our denomination check out our website: UUFSA.org and the website of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA.org)



World Refugee Day Program
Thursday, June 13, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Amnesty International – St Augustine

**Volunteers' Experiences with Asylum – Seeking Migrants
at the Southwest Border**

St. Augustine residents Patricia Maguire, Calvin Marshall, and Sister Diane Couture, SSJ, will discuss their recent volunteer work at Casa Del Refugiado, one of Annunciation House's shelters in El Paso for asylum-seeking migrants released by ICE (US Immigration & Customs Enforcement). Annunciation House is a faith based, nonprofit shelter network run entirely by private donations and volunteer energy to provide transitional hospitality for released migrants. A reception will follow downstairs.

Co – Sponsored by Amnesty International – St Augustine and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine, Adult Learning Program.

“The Meaning of Life”
Wisdom and Knowledge from the World's
Great Intellectual Traditions
Thursday, June 27, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Downstairs Meeting Hall, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

So, What Is the Meaning of Life?

This is the final meeting of our UUFSA Adult Learning this year. Certain recurrent themes have emerged from a variety of topics we explored. We need to understand the nature of the world we live in in order to live an authentic life and why it is important to develop connection between our own lives and some larger context, of spontaneity, of some ideal of human perfection and of impermanence. Perhaps the first step in finding the meaning of life is to ask questions and then engage.

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

We extend our warm welcome to all. Please come and join us to discuss “The Meaning of Life.”

Book Group, June 18, at 1:00 p.m.



The UU Book Group will meet on Tuesday, June 18, at 1:00 p.m.

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

Great Decisions Monday, June 17, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Great Decisions is an initiative of the Foreign Policy Association – http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/
Interesting topics are discussed as seen through the lens of US foreign policy. The discussions are always stimulating. For more information, please contact Yosi at jomcintire@bellsouth.net or 904-461-3175.

June Calendar



- 2 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 3 – Program Team 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 6 – Indivisible St. Augustine 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 7 – Darts 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 10 – Board of Trustees meeting 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- 13 – World Refugee Day Program 6:30 p.m.
- 14 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 16 – Third Sunday food donation during service
- 17 – Great Decisions 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 18 – Book Group 1:00 – 2:45
- 21 – Deadline for July – August Quest contributions
- 21 – Darts 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 27 – The Meaning of Life Adult Ed. 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- 28 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 28 – Movie, *The Best Years of Our Lives* 6:30 p.m.

From the Food Pantry



If you wish to volunteer at the St. Johns Food Pantry, as part of the UU Fellowship Team, or have any questions about the Pantry, please contact Cherie Dolgin.

Cherie Dolgin
UUFSA Food Pantry Coordinator
904-461-1604

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
 Adele DelSavio 315-529-6287
 Cherie Dolgin 904-461-1604
 JoAnne Engelbert 904-460-1190

Maureen Herth..... 904-463-1032
 Cynthia McAuliffe 904-863-1303
 Rosemary Wheeler 352-339-4157
 Anne Wilke..... 904-797-1944

Dining With Dignity

Our next opportunity to provide a nourishing meal for the homeless will be **Sunday, June 2, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** For more information, contact a member of the Dining with Dignity Team:

Mary Kellough, 904-217-9837



Palmer's Pic June 28, 6:30 p.m.

The Best Years of Our Lives



The movie for June 28 will be *The Best Years of Our Lives*. Once again Roger Ebert will do the reviewing. Just one comment by me: the character of Al reminds me of my father and the scene where he stands waiting for his wife, played lovingly by Myrna Loy, to turn around always bring tears to my eyes. Here is the link: <https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/the-best-years-of-our-lives-1946>

This movie is still relevant with servicemen and women coming home limbless and suffering from PTSD. After reading the review, scroll down and read the comments section. Almost three quarters of a century have passed and this movie still grabs you.

Palmer

Friday Darts Nights June 7 and 21, 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/>



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY Spokane, Washington | June 19-23, 2019

General Assembly is an unforgettable experience for the thousands of Unitarian Universalists who attend each June. Attendees leave with a renewed sense of energy, inspiration, and innovative ideas to take back to their congregations and communities. GA is even more enjoyable if experienced with a delegation of congregational peers who can share expenses and meals and provide mutual support during the conference. This year, in addition to Theme-Based Programming, the schedule will feature Role-Based Track Programming, including time for discussion among attendees, sharing inspiring models and stories, and concrete suggestions for how to further the work or "take it home."

In order to raise interest and to help your congregations learn more about General Assembly, we have assembled [promotional resources](#) to download, copy, or print for further distribution.

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!

Youth Mountain Camp & Farm Camp 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, 904-471-0335 or bjcree@gmail.com.