

QUEST



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

October 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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The *Quest* is published monthly September through July.
Materials for the November issue are due by October 18.

Don Brandes, Editor: donaldbrandes@gmail.com
Thanks to Adele DelSavio for proofreading and
David Wright for printing each issue of the *Quest*.

From Your President

Since I wrote the column for the September Quest, most of us experienced a couple of weeks of very real anxiety as tropical storm Dorian developed into a major hurricane, eventually devastating Grand Bahama Island and the Abacos Islands. For a while it looked as though we might expect to see some of the fury of Dorian. We chose to cancel the September 1st Sunday service so our members could prepare as necessary. We had to decide by the Friday before, and that morning it still appeared to threaten us. JoAnne's service on Elizabeth Cady Stanton will be rescheduled for later in the year.



Sunday the 15th was the third Sunday of September, and third Sundays are when the plate collection is given to outside groups doing good work in our community. The Board of Trustees decided that because of the scale of the destruction in the Bahamas, we would make an exception and provide the proceeds to aid the Bahamas. The response and generosity were remarkable – we raised \$1,119.00. You will see more details, including the names of the two organizations selected to receive support, on page nine in this Quest.

Recently, Chris and I went downtown to participate in the Student's Climate Strike demonstration. We saw many of our friends there, including quite a few UUs. Except for one loud sociopath yelling at people to "bury your shoes" (that is a long story) it really was a beautiful and peaceful demonstration by mostly young people demanding that urgent action be taken to address global warming. The young have the most at stake as our world warms; the effects are anticipated to extend beyond decades and will persist long after my generation is gone.

We need to think very carefully about what we can do both individually and collectively to lighten our burden upon this beautiful biosphere – the land, the waters and the atmosphere that we and all the plants, animals and microbes inhabit.

Jerome Fosaaen
904-417-7344
fosaaenj@gmail.com

Sunday, October 6, 10:30 a.m.
“Droplets of Hope and Water Communion”
Robin Mahonen

Service Leader: Chris McDermott
Music: Alex Soltow
Story for All Ages
Green Minute

Feeling despair about our climate crisis? We are presenting an adapted interview with climate scientist Susanne Moser. In her conversation with *Earth Island Journal* and *Island Press*, Moser talks about communicating bad climate news, the benefits of “functional denial,” the varied flavors of hope, and the better world we can build in the wreckage of life as we know it.

We will also be celebrating our traditional Water Communion.
Bring any water you may have collected during our summer recess.
If you don't have any, or have forgotten, we will provide water for you.

Robin Mahonen is a lifelong UU, and past President of our Fellowship. She holds a BA in Psychology/Sociology from Hunter College of the City University of New York, a Master's degree in Social Work from Adelphi University, and has an additional two years of post-graduate study in Social Work and Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh. She was a psychotherapist in private practice for many years in New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. She also founded the community based activist group, the Wheeling Water Warriors, which was instrumental in blocking the siting of a toxic fracking wastewater treatment plant on the Ohio River, as well as organizing the Great Ohio River Relay. She is mother of four, and is also a musician. With her husband, she forms the duet of Uncle Eddie & Robin. She has lived in Florida for five years, and her only regret is that she didn't come here sooner.

<http://uncleeddieandrobin.com/>



Sunday, October 13, 10:30 a.m.

“World Worth Living For”

Lauren Heintz

Service Leader: Robin Mahonen

Music: Taffy Rook

This I Believe: Barbara Brenner



Every person’s life is a journey. We all face challenges, and sometimes it might seem as if others are trying to tear our world apart as we stand on the sidelines feeling powerless and hopeless. Sometimes we make mistakes and feel we can’t recover from them. In this program, singer/songwriter Lauren Heintz will share her original music and story about her own difficult but rewarding journey as a transgender woman and musician.

Florida-based singer/songwriter and guitarist, Lauren Heintz, has quite a story to tell. She swam in volcanic calderas, water-skied gator-infested rivers, repaired U-2 spy planes near the Yellow Sea while in the USAF, and worked in the dot-com tech wars of Silicon Valley. If her life was a novel, the songs on her two released albums are the plot points of her story, the twists and turns of an edge walker. These albums capture many aspects of her search for a sense of place and purpose. Lauren graduated from Eustis High

School, Florida and immediately joined the USAF, then later received her Bachelors of Science in Computer Science (University of Maryland), and spent the next fifteen years as a software engineer before outing herself as a musician. <https://laurenheintz.com/>

Lauren Heintz Coffee House

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. after Sunday Service

We are honored and delighted to be able to present the first of our Sunday afternoon concert series with Lauren Heintz. Have coffee and refreshments downstairs after the service, and then join us again upstairs in the sanctuary for the concert. Suggested Love Donation: \$10 - \$20.

Lauren is an award – winning and stunning singer-songwriter and finger-style guitarist.

- WINNER - 2018 & 2014 South Florida Folk Festival Singer/Songwriter
- FIRST PLACE - 2016 Will McLean Song Contest
- WINNER - Walnut Valley Festival Song Contest! (2013)
- HONORABLE MENTION - 2015 Mid-Atlantic Song Contest
- HONORABLE MENTION - 2014 Woody Guthrie Song Contest
- THIRD PLACE - 2015 Will McLean Song Contest
- TOP TEN - 2018 (#8), 2014 (#4), 2013 (#4) Will McLean Song Contest

Sunday, October 20, 10:30 a.m.
**“The Jewish Festival of Sukkot:
Spiritual and Social Justice Insights”**
Rabbi Dr. Nadia Siritsky

Service Leader: Jane Mahoney
Music: Alex Soltow
Third Sunday Food Collection
Cash Plate Donation: Food Pantry



Rabbi Nadia will join us to explain the biblical and rabbinic teachings regarding the festival of Sukkot, and describe the deeper spiritual and social justice implications of the origins and its practices. How can these teachings inform individuals seeking to live a more spiritual life? What can they teach us regarding our obligation to work for justice in our community? What specific insights can inform an interfaith approach to social justice and environmental healing?

Rabbi Dr. Nadia Siritsky, MSSW, BCC serves part-time as rabbi for Temple Bet Yam, while also working as a hospital leader and administrator in Louisville, Kentucky. She fell in love with the St. Augustine community while leading Bet Yam for High Holy Days and has welcomed every opportunity to return since then. She has extensive experience as a congregational rabbi, an interfaith hospital and hospice chaplain and social worker, as well as a psychotherapist.

UU Fall Potluck
Sunday, October 20th, after the service.

All are invited to share in the meal.

Think of something good to eat, make it, and bring it!

And if you can, please consider our vegetarians and vegans in your choice.

Our potluck meals are a good way to strengthen the bonds in our beloved UU community.

If you have questions, call or text the current Hospitality Team Leader, Rosi Angeli at 904-315-4284.



Sunday, October 27, 10:30 a.m.

“Advanced Care Planning”

Marylin Bloom

Service Leader: Gina Jonas

Music: Taffy Rook

The process of planning ahead for future healthcare is called Advance Care Planning. Our presentation explores the value of planning for your healthcare needs and discussing your wishes. It is essential to ensure the treatment you receive is consistent with your goals and wishes.

Marylin Bloom, Haven’s Director of Advanced Illness, oversees the Transitions and Advance Care Planning programs. Marylin, who has been with Haven since October 2018, has a master's degree in Mental Health counseling. She previously served as Director of a pediatric program and also as an Adult Bereavement counselor at Hospice of Citrus County and the Nature Coast. Marylin has extensive marketing experience and is skilled in fundraising. Outside of work, Marylin enjoys raising cattle with her husband.



Coffee Hour Hosts Needed



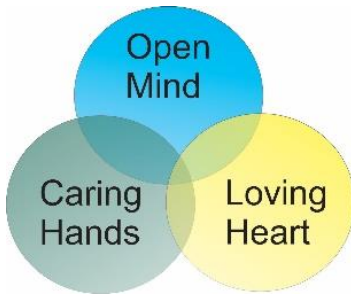
To sign up for coffee hour, please enter your name on the calendar in the UU Social Hall or contact current Hospitality Team Leader, Rosi Angeli by calling or texting her at 904-315-4284. We need two persons to host coffee hour each Sunday.

Flowers for Sunday Services

To sign up to bring flowers to a Sunday service, please sign up on the calendar in the Social Hall. If the flowers are to commemorate a special occasion, anniversary, or a person, please print a suitable announcement text and hand it to the service leader prior to the service. By the way, any flowers that you bring to a service are yours to take home with you afterwards.

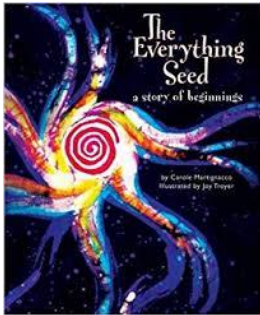


Programs for Children and Youth



We love our larger classroom! Thank you very much to the wonderful remodeling crew who worked so hard this summer to make this possible. This larger space allows us so much more room to be creative! Come take a look.

We began this year with a focus on beginnings. We read “The Everything Seed,” a wonderful story about the beginning of the universe. Then the children used seeds to illustrate their ideas about how the building blocks for everything we know about, including living things, scattered from that tiny “Everything Seed” to create the universe.

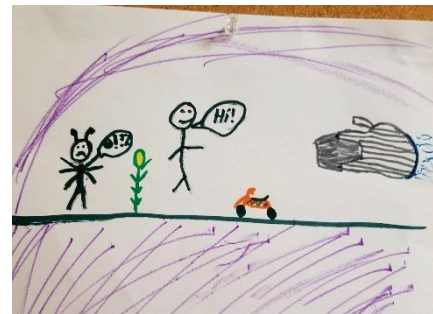


We have begun to create a star map on our wonderful, large poster board. We started with the North Star, which we can use to guide us. Inherent in all of our conversations is the idea that we UUs use love as our North Star.

We have begun to ask questions about how we might travel to other galaxies and what we might find when we get there. Bacteria? Plants? Tartigrades, i.e. water bears? Intelligent life? And if we find life, what should we do? And if we find intelligent life, how should we greet them? These are very BIG and IMPORTANT questions and challenges that this generation of young people may well have to deal with directly. Because they are growing up as UUs, we trust that love will guide them.



We thank **Claudia Atkins** for participating in one of our classes this past month, and we look forward to a visit from **Chuck Chambers** during October.



If you have questions about our Program for Children and Youth, especially if you would like to participate in one of our classes, please contact Jindy Gelow (Jindyms@yahoo.com) or Barbara Battelle (battellebarbara@gmail.com).

Skeptics and Believers: Religious Debates in the Western Intellectual Tradition 2019-2020

What are we doing when we profess belief in God? When we pray? When we join others in rituals of worship? Modernity is a historical period characterized by advances in science and new models of reason. New questions about God, faith, and religion began to be asked. How do we know that God exists? Is religion a force for good in human life, or is something that belongs to a past age, a symptom of the childhood of humanity?

October 8

Religion and Modernity

Surindar Paracer

October 22

From Catholicism

to Protestantism

Jocelyn Breakwell

Tuesdays: 5:00 - 6:30 p.m., downstairs meeting hall, UUFSA

Series Coordinator: Surindar Paracer, Co-chair, UU Adult learning

Contact Surindar Paracer at (904-217-3802 sparacer@worchester.edu)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion Leader</u>
November 5	Scientific Revolution and Descartes.....	Richard Lahey
November 19	Enlightenment and Religion	Surindar Paracer
December 10	Judaism and Modernity	Lois Post
January 7	Kierkegaard's faith	Chris McDermott
January 21	Kierkegaard's Paradox.....	Chris McDermott
February 4	Nietzsche and Genealogy of Morals	Nana Royer
February 18	Nietzsche – Religion and the Ascetic Ideal	Nana Royer
March 10.....	Freud – Religion as Neurosis.....	Louis Post
April 7	Barth and the end of Liberal theology	Chris McDermott
April 21	Modern Jewish Philosophy	Lois Post
May 5.....	Liberation Theology.....	Yosi McIntire
May 19.....	Secular and Postmodern Theologies	Chuck Chambers
June 9.....	New Atheisms	Richard Lahey
June 23.....	Pluralisms – Religious and Secular.....	Jane Mahoney

Dorian Disaster Relief

Our “Share the Plate” fund raiser for Dorian Disaster Relief raised \$1,119! Thank you very much for your generosity. These funds will be divided equally and sent to two organizations recommended by Chris McDermott. Chris is knowledgeable in the field of international aid, and he investigated effective NGOs working in the Bahamas. The two organizations that will receive our funds are GlobalGiving (<https://www.globalgiving.org/>) and Water Mission (<https://watermission.org>). We will specify to both organizations that our gift is to be used for Dorian Disaster Relief in the Bahamas. Again, thank you for opening your wallets as well as your hearts.

Green Team Meeting Sunday, October 6, 12:30 p.m.

Please join us to learn more about the UUFSA environmental action group and catch up with planned activities. The table will be set up in the lower level; please join us. The Green Team needs you! For further info contact Chris McDermott at surfbiker55@yahoo.com.

Don't throw away your used toothpaste tubes, boxes, toothbrushes, and floss containers! Bring them to the Fellowship and dump them in the box which will be set up downstairs. Colgate has partnered with Terracycle to recycle these materials. If everyone does this, think of the amount saved from the landfill – a small step for mankind!

**Nana Royer
Chris McDermott
For the Green Team**



Book Group Tuesday, October 15, at 1:00 p.m.

The book for discussion is *The Woman Who Smashed Codes*, by Jason Fagone. Uldis Golts will be discussion leader.

***Bobbie Brenner
Group Coordinator***

Great Decisions

Monday, October 21, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact Yosi at jomcintire@bellsouth.net or 904-461-3175.

From the Food Pantry



Our UU Fellowship has a volunteer team which staffs the St. Johns Food Pantry on the second and fourth Friday of each month. If you have any interest in becoming a member or questions about the pantry, please call Cherie Dolgin. She will be happy to speak with you.

Cherie Dolgin
UUFSA Food Pantry Coordinator
cdolgin@bellsouth.net, 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, October 6, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** For more information, contact a member of the Dining with Dignity Team:

Mary Kellough, 904-217-9837





Friday Darts Nights October 4 and 18, 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.

Palmer's Pic October 25, 6:30 p.m.

The Dancer Upstairs



See the review at: <https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/the-dancer-upstairs-2003>

Palmer

October Calendar



- 3 – Indivisible St. Augustine 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 4 – Darts 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 6 – Green Team 12:30 -1:30 p.m.
- 6 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 7 – Program Team 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 8 – Adult Learning 5:00 – 6:30
- 11 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 13 – Lauren Heintz coffee house 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
- 14 – Board of Trustees meeting 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- 15 – Book Group 1:00 – 2:45
- 18 – Deadline for November Quest contributions
- 18 – Darts 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 20 – Third Sunday food donation during service
- 20 – Fall Potluck after service
- 21 – Great Decisions 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 22 – Adult Learning 5:00 – 6:30
- 25 – Food Pantry 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 25 – Movie, *The Dancer Upstairs* 6:30 p.m.

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/>

ALL INVITED!

St Augustine Interfaith Community (SAIC) Thanksgiving Interfaith Service of Gratitude Thursday, November 21 at 6 pm.

Local clergy came together in 2014 to host a Thanksgiving Interfaith Service of Gratitude. A service has been held annually since then. The service will be at Memorial Presbyterian Church, 32 Sevilla Street, St. Augustine 32084. Free parking (limited) is available in the church lot. A community social hour with light snacks will follow the service.

The original organizers of the event founded the St Augustine Interfaith Community (SAIC), which is composed of religious organizations and includes both clergy and lay leaders, who, “represent, but not bind, their respective institutions.”

SAIC members have also organized, among others, interfaith Passover seders and group meditations. (See St Augustine Interfaith Community on Facebook.)

To ensure that the UUFSA consistently participates in SAIC and that members and friends who wish to attend such events are informed, the Board has voted to appoint both a lay-leader to officially represent our congregation on the SAIC Leadership Team and someone to maintain congregational communications. Our current lay-leader representative is Chris McDermott. Margaret Nicholson will keep you informed by Quest and/or verbal announcements about upcoming events.

Members of our congregation are welcome to attend SAIC planning meetings and help in carrying out events.

Margaret Nicholson

If you have questions, please feel free to call:

Tel: 904 797-6022 (a real home phone, doesn't receive texts)