

# QUEST



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

**February 2022**  
2487 A1A South, St. Augustine, FL 32080  
3/4 mile south of State Road 312  
[uufsacontact@gmail.com](mailto:uufsacontact@gmail.com)   <http://www.uufsa.org/>

**UUFSA IS NOW OPEN FOR IN-PERSON SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:00 A.M.**

Services also will continue to be presented on Zoom at  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4750592013>

**A Sunday children’s program also is available.**

Recordings of most past presentations are available on our website.

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## **Board of Trustees 2021 - 2022**

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Trustee .....	Cal Marshall
Trustee .....	Rosi Angeli



The *Quest* is published monthly September through July.

**Materials for the March issue are due by February 18.**

Don Brandes, Editor: [donaldbrandes@gmail.com](mailto:donaldbrandes@gmail.com)

Thanks to Adele DelSavio for proofreading.

# From Your President

R.I.P. Tony DeCrosta

The kind love of my life, talented, creative, great father, great husband, Tony DeCrosta died suddenly several days after surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. It may have been his heart. I was fortunate to have been with him while he died.

We had a lovely life together, as life and business partners and as parents to a talented, pianist son, Alec. These memories will sustain us during our time of grief. He loved Florida and made some very good friends at the UU Fellowship.

Please keep him in your prayers and meditations as he passes from this life to the next realm. We are organizing a Celebration of Life for mid-February.

Give a big hug and say "I love you" to your loved ones tonight. It may be the last time you get the chance.



*Renée Jones*

**UUFSA President 2021-2022**

[renee@scgggroup1.com](mailto:renee@scgggroup1.com)

**267-514-5302**

# From Your Acting President

Dear fellow UUFSA members and friends,

Very sadly, I'm writing to let you know that Renee has asked me to conduct UUFSA business as Acting President for the time being. With the help of my fellow dedicated Board members, I will do everything I can to serve you and provide leadership for our community.

For now, please know I'm thinking about you as I go forward, fully intending to serve you to the best of my ability.

In fellowship and gratitude,

**Gina Jonas**

**UUFSA Vice President**

**904-679-4610**

[gina.jonas@gmail.com](mailto:gina.jonas@gmail.com)

**Sunday services are now being presented in-person in the Fellowship.** Services also will continue to be presented on Zoom. To join the Zoom meeting, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4750592013> after 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning.

For safety's sake, we are asking that no one sing out loud during the services, except of course, our musician, and for everyone present to be vaccinated and wear a mask.

## **Sunday Announcements**

If you have a brief, UUFSA-related announcement you would like the Service Leader to relay to the fellowship at the beginning of our Sunday services, please submit it by email to the Service Leader no later than 24 hours before the Sunday service. Please send it directly to the Service Leader for the specific date you request. Due to time constraints, and the many diverse interests of the members of this fellowship, only UUFSA events will be announced.

February 6: Gina Jonas, [gina.jonas@gmail.com](mailto:gina.jonas@gmail.com)

February 13: Michael Read, [mickread@gmail.com](mailto:mickread@gmail.com)

February 20: Robin Mahonen, [RRafael2@aol.com](mailto:RRafael2@aol.com)

February 27: Gina Jonas, [gina.jonas@gmail.com](mailto:gina.jonas@gmail.com)

## **Sunday, February 6, 10:00 a.m. “To Seek Knowledge in Freedom” Pastor Phillip Baber**

Service Leader: Gina Jonas

Music: Alex Richman

Story for All Ages

**Phillip Baber continues his line-by-line discussion of our Spoken Covenant.**

Phillip Baber is the pastor of The People’s Church of Jacksonville and the Regional Director of the Poor People’s Campaign of Northeast Florida. He is the former pastor of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Jacksonville and has served as 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.



**Sunday, February 13, 10:00 a.m.**  
**“It Happened Here As Well:  
The Importance of Local History”**

**Kimberlyn Elliott**

Service Leader: Michael Read  
Music: Taffy Rook  
This I Believe: Sharron Hines



Kimberlyn Elliott is a student of history and a museum professional from Gainesville, Florida. She earned a B.A. in American History and Masters of Applied Social Science with a Concentration in History from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) in Tallahassee, Florida. As a public history worker, she enjoys bringing new discoveries in Black history and culture from college classrooms and university presses to youth and communities. She currently serves as the Associate Director of the Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center. Through her career, she excitedly explores the fullness of Black life and culture and illuminates the vast contributions of the Black community to the State of Florida and the nation. Her latest collaborative project, “Resilience: Black Heritage in St. Augustine” was a year-long collaboration in 2021

that inspired the creation of Black history centered exhibitions, programming, and educational content from over 15 cultural and historical institutions in the St. Augustine area.

**Sunday, February 20, 10:00 a.m.**  
**“The Calling: A Sharing Service”**

Facilitated by Robin Mahonen and Members of Our Fellowship  
Music: Taffy Rook  
Third Sunday Food Collection and Plate Donation: Food Pantry

Military, medical and ministerial individuals often tell us they had a "calling" to serve. What did you think you wanted to be or do when you grew up? Did you do that, or something different? Fellowship members will be sharing their experiences in how they made these important decisions in their lives. During congregational reflection, we encourage others to briefly share their most poignant experiences and insights along these lines.



# **Sunday, February 27**

## **“To Serve Humanity in Fellowship”**

### **Pastor Phillip Baber**

Service Leader: Gina Jonas

Music: Alex Richman

Green Minute

**Phillip Baber continues his line-by-line discussion of our Spoken Covenant.**

## **Sign up to Host Sunday Coffee Hour**

We eventually will open the downstairs recreation hall for coffee and light snacks when the threat of COVID recedes. Although the date is still uncertain, we need to be prepared when the time comes. You will want to volunteer to host a post-service Sunday coffee hour in Fellowship Hall as this popular weekly get-together resumes. Please let us know about your potential availability. You will not be committing to a particular date at this time.

Coffee hosts work in pairs and have these duties:

Preparation

- Make coffee in large percolator.
- Boil water for tea.
- Bring cookies and fruit (but not enough food to make a meal).
- Bring half and half.
- Arrange cups, snacks, etc. on tables

After coffee hour

- Wash out percolator.
- Wash dishes (dishwasher available).
- Wipe table tops.
- Lightly sweep floor.
- Take out trash and recycling and move cans into position for Monday's pickup.
- Turn off all the lights in the building.
- Check and lock front and back doors.

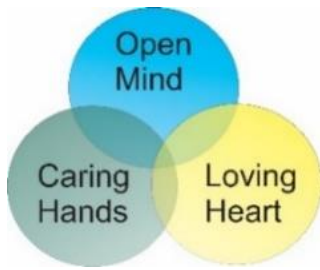
**To volunteer to host coffee hour, contact Rosi Angeli by calling or texting 904-315-4284.**

## **Program Team Meeting**

### **February 7, 5:00 p.m.**

Please remember that the Program Team meets on the first Monday of each month. Contact Robin Mahonen, UUFSA Program Team Chair, for more information. [RRafael2@aol.com](mailto:RRafael2@aol.com) (304) 639-5538

# Programs for Children and Youth



*To keep everyone safe, classes are held outside when the weather is fair and on-line when it is foul.*

At the end of December, our children hosted a very successful Winter Festival in the UUFSA's backyard, complete with coffee, hot chocolate, snacks and entertainment. They sold ornaments that they created and held a raffle for a Yule Log they decorated, all to benefit our Fellowship. They also sold poinsettias to benefit HAWKSE Wildlife in memory of their good friend Palmer Short.



The price of admission to this wonderful event was a piece of clothing for the unsheltered. Our students then organized these donations so they could be given away the first Sunday in January at the Dining with Dignity event hosted by the UUFSA.



When the new year began, our students began to explore the concept of **Inclusion** by gaining a better understanding of people with different hearing, vision and mobility capacities. Upcoming classes will focus on **the care of the Environment and Animals**.

As we continue to search for a lead teacher for our program, we are delighted that Hannah Dompe has joined us as caregiver for the very young and assistant teacher. Please look for the ad for the Lead Teacher position elsewhere in the Quest and on our FaceBook page. If you know people who might be interested, please ask them to contact Jindy Gelow ([jjindyms@yahoo.com](mailto:jjindyms@yahoo.com)) or Barbara Battelle ([Battellebarbara@gmail.com](mailto:Battellebarbara@gmail.com)).

We are deeply committed to the UUFSA's high-quality Program for Children and Youth, and we will be calling on you, the members of our Fellowship, to share your knowledge and many gifts with our children. **Our children are our and the world's future!**

*Jindy Gelow and Barbara Battelle*



## Wanted

### Lead Teacher Program for Children and Youth Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of St. Augustine

**Beginning Immediately**

**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:** Present lessons Sundays 9:45 AM – 11:45 AM  
Contract will extend through June 30, 2022

**Compensation:** \$70/week. Includes compensation for 2 hours of preparation time plus 2 hours of class time.

**Brief Job Description:** Prepare and present lessons based on Unitarian Universalist curricula for school-aged children.

**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 learn more about our Fellowship and our denomination check out our website ([UUFSA.org](http://UUFSA.org)) and the website of the Unitarian Universalist Association ([UUA.org](http://UUA.org)).

**To apply:**

Submit a resume describing your educational background, work experience and contacts for three professional references to Barbara Battelle ([uufsa1bb@gmail.com](mailto:uufsa1bb@gmail.com)) with “Children/Youth Teacher” in the subject line.

For more information, call Barbara Battelle 904-540-3720.



**UU Adult Learning, February 2022**  
**Cycles of American Political Thought**  
6:00 – 7:30 p.m. on alternate Thursdays  
Meeting in Person at the Fellowship and on Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81217567074>

**February 3**

**Jacksonian Democracy: The ‘People’ Extended  
Iconoclastic Individualism: Thoreau**

**February 17**

**Constitutionalizing the Slave Class  
Lincoln’s reconstruction of America**

Dr. Joseph Kobyłka, Professor of Political Science at Southern Methodist University, will be our guide.

March 3 ..... Equality in the Law and in Practice  
Social Darwinism and Economic Laissez-Faire  
March 17 ..... Teddy Roosevelt and Progressivism  
April 7 ..... Supreme Court and Laissez-Faire  
April 21 ..... Hamiltonian Means to Jeffersonian Ends  
May 5..... The Women’s Movement and the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment  
May 19..... FDR, the New Deal, and the Supreme Court  
June 2..... The Reagan Revolution  
June 16..... 20<sup>th</sup> century America: A World Power  
June 30..... 21<sup>st</sup> century America: New Challenges and Global Homeostasis

**Surindar Paracer, Chair**  
**Richard Lahey, Co-Chair**



# **Great Decisions**

## **Extreme Weather and Changing Demographics**

### **Monday, February 21, 6:00 p.m.**



Cal Marshall will lead the February Great Decisions discussion on Monday the 21st of February at 6:00 p.m.

Extreme weather events have focused attention on the consequences of inaction resulting from an ideological divide in the United States on the subject of climate change. At the same time all over the globe, remarkable demographic changes are occurring with far-reaching consequences.

What role will the United States play?

The discussion will be on Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/216526385?pwd=Q1BBS2d3RW1wL1ZrZUIqTWRwajZ2dz09>  
Password 831270

Background reading:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/93ks9ab7vup6jvo/Demographic%20changes.pdf?dl=0>

and

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/jx336xubbdtdljb/Climate%20Change%20Agenda.pdf?dl=0>

Great Decisions hopes to serve as a catalyst for developing awareness, understanding, and informed opinion on U.S. foreign policy and global issues. Great Decisions meets every third Monday at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome.

For more information or to be added to the Great Decisions electronic mailing list, contact Yosi ([jomcintire@bellsouth.net](mailto:jomcintire@bellsouth.net) or 904 808 2717)

# Care Connection

Our Care Connection group provides short-term, non-medical support for members of the Fellowship during times of difficulty. With the help of the UUFSA Congregation, the Care Connection:



- Makes hospital or home visits
- Provides wellness-check phone calls or calls just to converse
- Runs errands
- Provides rides to appointments and church functions
- Delivers meals during times of adversity
- Offers financial assistance to members in need (all information is confidential)

We thank everyone for their generous support with transportation to medical appointments, making meals, assistance with errands, visiting and sharing. Contact one of our members listed below if you are in need of assistance or would like to join the Care Connection Team. Phone numbers are available in the Membership Directory. We accept and appreciate donations.

Rosemary Wheeler, Co-Chair  
Adele DelSavio

Cynthia McAuliffe

Maureen Herth, Co-Chair  
Anne Wilke

Pat Hall

Claudia Atkins  
Sharron Hines



# **St. Johns Food Pantry (AKA St. Johns Ecumenical Ministries Inc.)**



In 1992 twelve congregations in Saint Augustine came together to form the Saint Johns Ecumenical Ministries food pantry. For 30 years UUFSA has actively participated in the effort to provide hunger relief for Saint Johns County residents.

The UU Food Pantry team has been working hard every Friday packing and distributing groceries to the families needing food assistance in our community. The pantry bag count now averages over 100 bags per day. Many generous donors have stepped up to provide the food, the volunteer labor, and the many facility improvements which enable our success. Thank you for all your help.

To make a donation to the food pantry, please send a check to UUFSA, with notation on the memo line: "Food Pantry." Mail your check to UUFSA, 2487 A1A South, St. Augustine, FL 32080 or go to [UUFSA.org](http://UUFSA.org) and scroll down the "HOME" page to the button labeled "Donate". To check out the Food Pantry website go to [StJohnsFoodPantry.org](http://StJohnsFoodPantry.org).

If you would like to volunteer with the UU team on Friday afternoons, please contact Chris Fosaaen at 904-673-5630 or email [cfosaaen@gmail.com](mailto:cfosaaen@gmail.com)

***Chris Fosaaen, Chair***



## **Dining With Dignity Sunday, February 6**

Dining with Dignity is our once-a-month opportunity to feed the homeless downtown. A menu is sent out two weeks in advance, listing the items we need. We set up between 5:30 and 5:45 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month and serve at 6:00 p.m. If interested in participating, please contact Mary Kellough at [lkellough@comcast.net](mailto:lkellough@comcast.net).



# February Calendar



- 3 – Adult Learning, in person and online 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- 4 – Food Pantry 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.
- 6 – Food drop-off for Dining with Dignity 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- 6 – Dining with Dignity 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- 7 – Program Team 5:00 p.m.
- 11 – Food Pantry 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.
- 14 – Board of Trustees meeting, online 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- 17 – Adult Learning, in person and online 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- 18 – Food Pantry 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.
- 18 – Deadline for March Quest contributions 5:00 p.m.
- 20 – Third Sunday plate collection – Food Pantry
- 20 – Third Sunday food collection during service
- 21 – Great Decisions 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- 25 – Food Pantry 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.



## On the Lighter Side . . .

*Submit a short joke/piece of entertaining humor you'd like to share for consideration. Submit to Michael Read at [mickread@gmail.com](mailto:mickread@gmail.com).*

During the Middle Ages they celebrated the end of the plague with wine and orgies. Does anyone know if there's anything planned when this one ends?

I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's usually because I missed my exit.

Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.

"Those are my principles, and if you don't like them ... well, I have others." Groucho Marx

Life is like a helicopter. I don't know how to operate a helicopter.

We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colors, but they all live happily together in the same box.

Hospitality is the art of making guests feel as if they're at home when you wish they were.

My doctor said I need to install a bar in the shower. I told him I couldn't do that. My wife doesn't like me drinking.

# Beyond our Congregation



## UUA General Assembly

June 22 - 26, 2022 online or in-person in Portland, Oregon.



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles.

In 2022, we will have the option of meeting online or in-person! For those who enjoyed the convenience and accessibility of remote participation, General Assembly will continue to offer virtual attendance with robust programming and enhanced delegate discussion tools. For those who have been missing the physical experience, GA 2022 will also feature face-to-face interactions, hanging banners, an exhibit hall, meals with friends old and new, local site attractions, and more!

All GA attendees and exhibitors are required to provide proof of Covid-19 Vaccination for in-person attendance at General Assembly. In addition, masking is required and physically distanced seating options will be reserved in our meeting spaces. Currently, free Covid-19 testing is available Monday to Saturday from 8 am - 3 pm, by appointment or walk-in, at a testing site in front of the Oregon Convention Center. Appointments may be [scheduled online](#).

Registration for General Assembly 2022 in-person is now open. Financial support for registration as well as a payment plan is available. General Assembly 2022 will be a multiplatform event, with registration options for in-person and/or virtual participation. Registration for Virtual participation will open March 1.

[Register now!](#)