

The Newsletter of All Faiths Unitarian Congregation, *where diversity is treasured.*
A member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021 – 9:30 A.M.

Prior to 10:30 Service (see page 6 for details)

Budget Q&A Prior to the Meeting

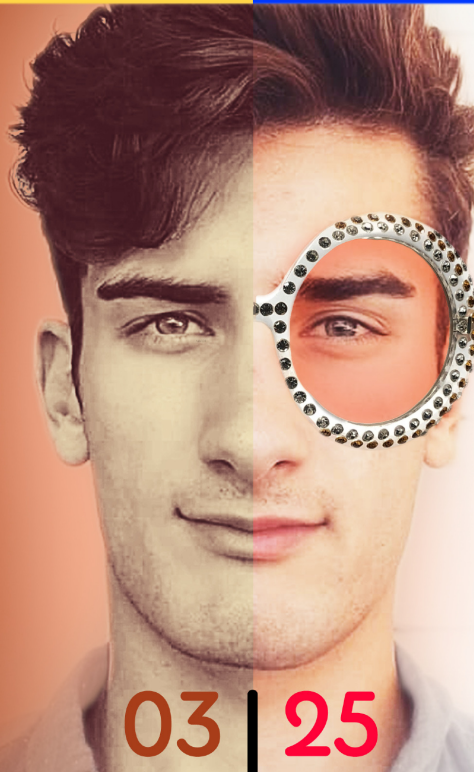
March 14 at 9:30 A.M.

Attendance for both meetings will be live and via Zoom

An All Faiths Fundraiser - See Page 7 for Details

AN INTIMATE VIRTUAL CONCERT EXPERIENCE

Piano Man



ROCKET MAN

03 | 25

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL & ELTON JOHN

The Board of Directors meeting took place on February 17, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. All members participated.

The Board agreed to continue the partial reopening of services with a limit of 15 attendees. Attendance will be by RSVP only. Contact Regina if you are interested in being in the potential pool of attendees.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 28 at 9:30 a.m. The workshop to discuss items on the Annual meeting agenda (Bylaws changes, proposed budget, the slate of nominees proposed by the Nominating Committee, and a staff position - Director of Children and Youth Programs) will be held at 9:30 am on March 14, not March 21 as previously stated. The workshop and the Annual Meeting will be conducted via Zoom. The 15 members attending the 10:30 service on those days may participate in person. Voting will be conducted using a combination of

absentee ballots, live votes, and virtual votes. If you cannot participate in the Annual Meeting please send your signed absentee ballot to All Faiths.

Although the Pledge Drive ended on Founders' Day, the Stewardship Committee will continue to call members and friends who did not return pledge forms. The Board appreciates the Stewardship Committee's work and the creative approach employed this year. Feedback about the weekly videos has been positive. If you haven't seen the videos, they can be accessed via our web page or viewed on our You Tube page. We did not meet the pledge goal by Founders' Day, but the amount pledged thus far is about 80% of the pledge goal in the proposed budget.

The Board discussed several fundraisers that have been proposed. Joseph will perform a concert and we hope to hold a virtual auction. See other arti-

cles in *Connections* and watch for email news on these events. We need helpers and organizers for the auction.

The Board discussed ways of showing more support for social justice issues such as Black Lives Matter. We will display a banner across the front of the church (Know Justice, Know Peace, and others on other occasions) and acquire a banner or flag to use in parades or protest marches.

The Board approved recommendations submitted by the Bylaws Committee for Congregants to vote on at the Annual Meeting. The proposed changes include reducing the minimum age for congregational membership from 18 to 14; allowing virtual Annual Meetings and Special Meetings; and allowing voting to be conducted partially or totally by communication technologies (e.g., Zoom or email) that are approved by the Board.

The Wish List includes two items: funding for the electrician to install wiring for new track lighting to be installed at the front of the sanctuary (about \$400), and funding for the deck replacement (undetermined cost at this time).

If you have comments or suggestions for your Board of Directors, please email All Faiths or contact me (239-770-0795 or gcstotler@gmail.com) or other Board members.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2021, via Zoom teleconference, starting at 1 p.m.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots will be sent to voting members via email or US Postal Service prior to Annual Meeting. Zoom links to join the meeting will also be sent via email.

Mission Statement

"All Faiths Unitarian Congregation is a welcoming, caring community, seeking diversity, practicing openness, and encouraging personal and spiritual growth. "We are working toward a just, free, peaceful and compassionate world."

All Faiths Collection Schedule

Share-the-Plate (please write organization and amount in the memo line of your check.)

March 14 - Angel Wings (Heart for the Homeless Team)

April 11 - One Tree (Climate Action Team)

May 9 - Meals of Hope (Rev. CJ)

June 13 - The Change Program (Racial Justice Team)

Food, Clothing, and Other Collections

McGregor Clinic - T/B/D

Community Food Box on the Porch - Daily



by Rev. CJ McGregor



Occasionally while offering pastoral care I receive serendipitous wisdom. That is, while offering care and support I somehow am given clarity about something happening in my life. Recently, while listening and responding to a member of our congregation, she offered me such clarity within her response to a question I had asked. You see, I have been accepted into a doctorate program and I was experiencing anxiety and doubt as to whether I should pursue this opportunity, whether I was capable and able to take this pursuit on and be successful, and wondering if this opportunity was for me.

I've shared with you that I was raised in poverty and endured physical and emotional abuse as a child. As a young adult, I carried a lot of shame about these facts. As someone who wanted to go to university and later seminary, I doubted that I could do it. I managed to do it and do it well. However, I constantly looked over my shoulder wondering if anyone would find out that I was a fraud, an imposter. Because of where I came from and experienced early in life, I wasn't supposed to be doing what I

was doing, achieving what I was achieving.

Even after I received the highest score possible from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Committee that credentials Unitarian Universalist Ministers and was ordained, I wondered if I would be found out. Each time I achieved success those feelings of inadequacy and shame would rear their heads. These feelings weren't real, but it was what I was taught about myself. Luckily, when I was about 39, that changed for me. I believed, and still do, that I am enough. I am enough. I do sometimes stare into the sky and wonder how did I get here? How did I do this? These aren't episodes of doubt, but are times when I am so grateful.

And so, when I was offering pastoral care to that member, we discovered we had a lot in common in our lives, including achieving great things and feeling like we would be found out for who we really are. This revelation couldn't have come at a better time for me. As I grappled with my feelings around pursuing a doctorate program, I discovered that what I was feeling wasn't real and that yes, I am enough. I was able to lay down those feelings of being an imposter that I hadn't felt for so long.

I'm sure we all experience doubt, anxiety, and inadequacy at times in our lives. We can visit these feelings, but we must never live there. These feelings are simply voices that were planted and must be kept at bay. It's so interesting to me

that after all of these years of not hearing these voices, that they so easily crept in during my discernment.

I am grateful to understand that pastoral care is a two-way street and to have such wonderful and encouraging people in my life.

- Blessings, CJ

Note: I have been accepted to Saybrook University and will be earning my PhD in Transformative Social Justice. I will begin in the fall of 2021. I'm able to do much of the work here in Florida, but will travel to southern California a few times per year.

JOYS & SORROWS

With our apologies for any omissions, here are the joys & sorrows expressed by our members in February.

Laurie Babcock was accepted to the Vermont College of Fine Arts MFA in Writing Program. This is a low-residency program so she's not moving. We send her our congratulations!

Glenn Camp had a heart attack in early February and was hospitalized. We hope that he receives good treatment and has a steady recovery.

Vicky Conran received the news that she has a melanoma in situ stage 2. She will be having minor surgery and appreciates our messages of support.

Bob and Marge DiGalbo had a joy to share when they celebrated their 46th Anniversary in February.

Elaine Leventhal fell and broke some ribs. She has moved to Heartland for care while she heals. We wish her a quick recovery.

Dottie Mayol shared the joy that a book about her famous father has been published - *Historic South Caicos, Turks and Caicos Islands* by Christian J. Buys, who invited her to contribute memories of summers in S. Caicos with her dad. Photos are included with Dottie's writings on pages 381 - 384.

Pat and Bob Nuding are happy to report that they have a new great-grandson, who was born in Louisiana. We share their joy.

Julie Simmons' partner Patty fell and broke her shoulder. Please keep her in your healing thoughts and prayers.

Dan Tudor, our former Music Director, shared the good news that his daughter gave birth to his second grandchild, a lovely baby girl that they have named Adel. They live in Sacramento, California.

Happening at All Faiths

Happy March Birthday to you!



March 1 Eileen Moran
March 2 Robert Way
March 3 Charlotte Blitt
March 3 Maria Menendez
March 4 Frankie Jennings
March 5 Debbie Kopp
March 9 Barbara Constans
March 12 Diane Chernow
March 14 Patrick Spiller
March 15 Rachel Spiller
March 17 Robert Battaglia
March 20 Greg Monk
March 21 Pat Nuding
March 21 Valerie Meacham
March 21 Chuck McGarry
March 23 Bob Moore
March 28 Sally Mason

And Coming Up...

April 1 Carol Heilsberg
April 3 Bill Snider
April 4 Barbara Goolsby

Solos Group Events

Saturday, March 20, 1:00 p.m.
Virtual Zoom Luncheon

*Don't lose track of your Solo friends.
Can't stay for lunch? Just pop in and
say hello. We miss you all.*

Contact: Annely Hudanick,
annelyblue@hotmail.com

Everyone is welcome to join the Solos
for outings and lunches.

TEN O'CLOCK SCHOLAR Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.



<https://zoom.us/j/7787257501>

This new program will be offered at 10 a.m. on Wednesday mornings. Join us to engage history, art, theology, environmentalism, literature, influential people, and MORE. This will be a ZOOM program and our office will send a link each week.

March 03 - Amend: The Fight for America, Who is a citizen?

March 10 - Amend: The Fight for America, Resistance to
Equality

March 17 - No program

March 24 - Amend: Civil Rights Movement Gaining
Momentum

March 31 - Amend: The Fight for America, Women Gain Control

ZOOM MEETINGS

Mondays: Schedule a one-on-one meeting with the Minister
via Zoom, or in person

Wednesdays: Ten O'clock Scholar 10 a.m.

Thursdays: Zoom Coffee Hour - 11:30 a.m.

Zoom Youth RE Social Gathering 7-9 p.m.

Sundays: Zoom News Talk w. Richard Keelan - 9 a.m.

Zoom Youth Religious Education - 10:30 a.m.
(check calendar for dates)

Zoom Coffee Hour 11:30 a.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE

The Sunday service is streamed *live* at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, on
our public Facebook page: www.facebook.com/allfaithsuc

View the services anytime on our website: www.allfaithsuu.org
by clicking on the You Tube button, or go to YouTube.com and
search "All Faiths."

MARCH 2021 CALENDAR

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



*All Meetings and Social Events are Held via Zoom
Zoom Links are Sent via Email Prior to Events*

1		2 1:30pm Climate Action Team Mtg. <i>Special Presentation: Dr. Greg Tolley</i> (see CAT article on page 8)	3 10am Ten O'clock Scholar on Zoom (see pg. 4)	4 11:30am Coffee Hour 7 pm Youth RE Social Gathering	5	6
7 9:30am News Talk w. Richard Keelan 10:30am Service Livestreamed Youth RE 11:30 Coffee w. Staff	8 10am Sun. Service Team Mtg. 12pm Book Club <i>International Women's Day</i>	9 10am Racial Justice Mtg.	10 10am Ten O'clock Scholar on Zoom (see pg. 4)	11 10 am Finance Mtg. 11:30am Coffee Hour 7 pm Youth RE Social Gathering	12	13 <i>Turn Clocks Ahead Tonight</i>
14 9:30am <i>Budget Q&A</i> 10:30am Service 11:30am Coffee w. Staff <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	15	16	17 10am Ten O'clock Scholar on Zoom (see pg. 4) 1pm - Zoom Board Meeting <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18 11:30am Coffee Hour 2pm Heart for the Homeless Team	19	20 1pm Solos Lunch <i>Spring Begins</i> 7pm ACMA Concert (see pg. 10)
21 9:00am News Talk w. Richard Keelan 10:30am Service Livestreamed Youth RE 11:30am Coffee w. Staff	22 7pm Odyssey w. Jan Guardiano	23	24 10am Ten O'clock Scholar on Zoom (see pg. 4)	25 11:30am Zoom Coffee Hour 7 pm- Zoom Youth RE Social Gathering 7 p.m. Joseph Brauer Concert	26	27 <i>Passover Begins at Sunset</i>
28 9:30am Annual Meeting 10:30am Service Livestreamed 11:30am Coffee w. Staff	29 7pm ACMA Concert Sunday (see pg. 10)	30	31	<p>See the calendar on-line: http://www.allfaiths-uc.org Updates & Corrections will be on the website in Red Print.</p>		

MARCH 2021 SUNDAY SERVICES "BROKENNESS"

Livestreamed on Facebook at 10:30 a.m.

Recorded and available at www.allfaithsuu.org or on our YouTube channel

In-House attendance (limited to 15 persons)
by prior reservation

March 7 – The Blessings of Brokenness,

Message by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Joseph Brauer

Worship Associate - Susan Meissner

Youth RE with Mary Corrigan

March 14 – Broken

Message by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Joseph Brauer

Worship Associate - Doug Cartwright

March 21 – A Broken Heart

Message by Donalie Benyak

Music by Joseph Brauer

Worship Associate - Joyce Ramay

Youth RE with Mary Corrigan

March 28 – Restored through Brokenness

Message by Rev. CJ McGregor

Music by Joseph Brauer

Worship Associate Carol Elrod

SUNDAY PROGRAMS

News Talk with Richard Keelan

9:00 a.m. on Zoom

Youth RE with Mary Corrigan

10:40 a.m. on Zoom - check calendar for dates

Coffee Talk with Staff

11:30 a.m. on Zoom

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

All members are encouraged to participate in our Annual Meeting. The Agenda will include:

Highlights of Minutes from Last Year's Annual Meeting.

Approval of Bylaws Amendments, which will change the age for membership from 18 to 14, and facilitate attending and voting at our meetings using communication technology authorized by the Board.

Election of Secretary, Board Directors and Nominating Committee Members.

Approval of Staff Position: Director, Child and Youth Programs

Approval of the Budget of \$235,023 for 2021-2022
The 2021 Annual Report will be distributed electronically prior to Sunday, March 14, 2021. It will include reports from various congregational leaders and committees, proposed Bylaws Amendments, Nominees for Secretary and Board Directors, Nominees for the Nominating Committee, and detailed Budget information.

Participation: Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only 15 members can attend in person, (in addition to those who are performing the service that day.) Members may register in advance with Regina Kilmartin to attend the meeting in person. Most Members will attend the meeting via Zoom. Those who cannot attend in person may request Absentee Ballots from office@allfaithsuu.org. Signed absentee ballots must be returned to All Faiths prior to the meeting and will be counted in the quorum. The link to attend the Annual Meeting will be sent in advance.

Special Congregational Information Meeting

Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

We invite our members to participate in a special Zoom meeting to present information and to answer questions about the items on the Annual Meeting agenda. The link to attend will be sent in advance.

Ed Elrod,

Secretary, Board of Directors



**SEND A MESSAGE
TO YOUR FL REP**

**DEMANDING THEM TO USE
THEIR POWER TO STOP HB1/SB484**

**TEXT 'STOPDCR'
TO 484848**

bit.ly/stopdcr

HELP STOP CENSORSHIP & REPRESSION HOUSE BILL

Folks, your voice is URGENTLY needed. Florida legislature is considering HB1, an incredibly harmful bill to both our shared first amendment rights as well as for the rights of local government. You can read about the bill at the Florida Senate site here: House Bill 1 (2021) - The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)

HB1 (Combating Public Disorder) is white supremacy codified into a bill. What would happen if this bill were to pass? Just some of the problematic points this bill creates:

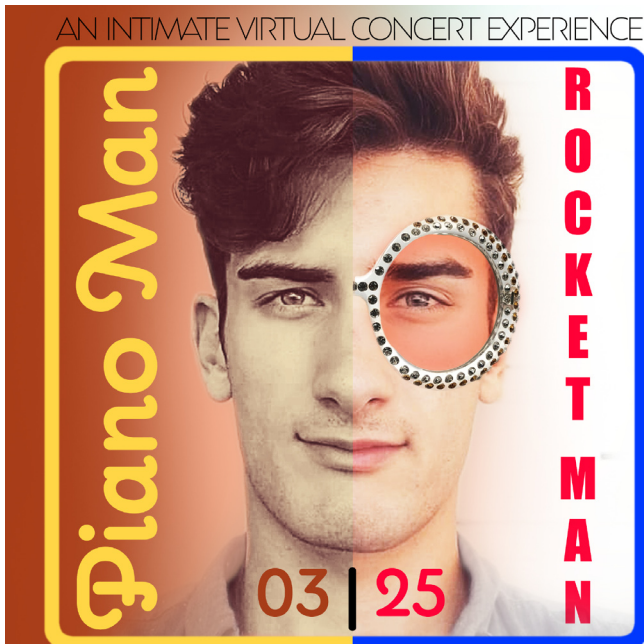
- makes protesting punishable by a felony
- creates "aggravated rioting" as a second degree felony defined as a protest with more than nine people blocking a road or over \$5,000 in property damage
- denies protestors bail
- protects people who kill or do bodily harm to
- protestors against civil lawsuits
- makes pulling down or damaging a Confederate monument punishable with up to 15 years in prison
- allows state to override any municipality that decreases police budgets

This bill is the brainchild of Gov. Ron DeSantis, and is the governor's top legislative priority for 2021. DeSantis first announced the possibility of this bill after the summer protests of the killing of George Floyd, and the bill is aimed exactly where DeSantis meant it to be: directly at those standing up in defense of black lives. DeSantis and members of the state legislature have cashed in on the emotion following the insurrection at the US Capitol as well as the white supremacist sentiment growing more bold in America. They have used both of these to forward this bill and encourage its passage. It is imperative that we UUs mobilize in every way possible to stop this bill.

**Join All Faiths' Racial Justice Team, which meets
on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.
Contact: Rachel Spiller at rlspiller@gmail.com**

An All Faiths Fundraiser
"It's Been a Long, Long Time!"

AN INTIMATE VIRTUAL CONCERT EXPERIENCE



FEATURING THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL & ELTON JOHN

Contact Joseph Brauer (joseph@josephbrauer.com)
or the All Faiths' Office (office@allfaithsuu.org)
to purchase Tickets

Tickets: Pay What you Can
(\$20 suggested donation)

A link to the online concert will be sent with
your ticket confirmation

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NEWS

by Joan Marshall, Chair



Your Climate Action Team is reaching out to connect with valuable resources available here in our community to help us better understand and be able to act upon the impacts of a changing climate on our environment. Hopefully, you are already planning to join us for

the special presentation at our March meeting by the head of the new FGCU Water School, Dr. Greg Tolley. Be sure to mark your calendar for Tuesday, March 2nd at 1:30 p.m. and join us on Zoom to hear his presentation on “Cool, Clear Water.”

Interestingly, World Water Day takes place this month on March 22nd. Established by the UN General Assembly in 1993, this annual event is celebrated in countries around the world. The website <https://unwater.org> describes the significance of that celebration this way:

“World Water Day celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water. It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis and achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030.”

Although here in Southwest Florida we tend to focus primarily on the water problems directly affecting us like the relatively recent red tide and blue-green algae crisis and the lack of fresh water flow to the Everglades, we should be aware that water is the primary medium through which the world will feel the effects of climate change. The unwater.org website describes it like this:

“More floods and severe droughts are predicted. Changes in water availability will also impact health and food security and have already proven to trigger refugee dynamics and political instability.”

We have only to look at the drought that triggered the horrific civil war in Syria and its millions of homeless refugees to understand this is not a distant future problem.

We invite you to join us at our next CAT meeting on March 2nd to hear Dr. Tolley’s presentation followed by a Q&A session. Our meetings are always open to anyone wishing to participate. Hope to see you there.

LIFE

Lee Interfaith for Empowerment

by Marsha Bates, Team Leader

All Faiths' Members and Friends continue to support LIFE's current efforts to combat injustice in our community. At LIFE's February board meeting, Donalie Benyak updated attendees about the Criminal Justice Action Team's (CJAT's) activities. The Team has conducted more than 10 interviews with representatives from the Lee County Sheriff's Department (LCSO) and organizations that provide mental health services such as Salus Care and Cornerstone. CJAT learned that only 20 percent of LCSO deputies have received training about how to handle situations when confronted with persons who have mental health issues. And they learned that mental health professionals are rarely asked to provide assistance in those situations. CJAT continues to try to meet with Sheriff Marceno to discuss how mental health situations are handled by his staff. The next CJAT meeting: Tuesday, March 2nd at 6:30 pm.

The Affordable Housing Action Team's (AHAT's) meeting with Ft Myers Mayor Anderson and Councilwoman Bonk was successful. They both agreed to attend the Nehemiah Action (April 26th at 7 pm). They also agreed to attend a training session about affordable housing trust funds that will be held March 30th at 6 pm. Grant Alley, the City Attorney, will help LIFE turn its requested action (to be determined soon) into an ordinance. He also committed to work with LIFE to ensure city officials cannot use the Sunshine Law as a reason to not participate in the Nehemiah Action.

There will be a virtual meeting of All Faiths' LIFE network members on Monday, March 8th at 7 pm. It will be a chance for the network members to 'meet' each other...and to strategize on approaches to increase the congregation's participation in the Nehemiah Action zoom meeting.

Nehemiah Action is the LIFE-wide meeting where pertinent elected officials are asked to support initiatives that will improve the lives of Lee County residents (e.g. establishing an affordable housing trust fund). It is imperative that hundreds of persons attend; that would demonstrate to the elected officials that their constituents are concerned about the issue. LIFE hopes to have 1,200 people attend this year's April 26th Nehemiah Action. When you are invited to that meeting, please agree to attend!

Save the Dates

All Faiths Network Meeting - March 8 at 7 p.m.

LIFE Rally - April 12 at 7 p.m.

Nehemiah Action - April 26 at 7 p.m.



TREASURER'S REPORT

by John Conrad, Treasurer

Balance Sheet: Cash Assets - January 2021

Iberiabank Checking	\$12,579
Iberiabank Op. Reserve	25,022
Live Oak Op. Res. CD	20,684
Raymond James Legacy	37,024
Pay Pal	35
Iberiabank Capital Fund	<u>6,136</u>
Total	\$101,480
Prior Month	<u>94,457</u>
Net Gain	\$ 7,023

January 2021 P&L

Operating Income	\$ 24,989
Operating Expense	<u>17,007</u>
Net Gain	\$ 7,982

Revenue/Operating Income increased significantly in January, compared to December. Some of the increased revenue is from the pledge drive for our next fiscal year (2021-22). Even though those donations are received as cash revenue in the current fiscal year (2020-21), the donations are recorded as a donation towards the new pledge drive for 2021-22. These are critical and difficult times for all of us; your generosity is appreciated!

The Burn the Mortgage program continues with donations of \$1,950.00 received in January. The outstanding mortgage principal at the end of January was \$89,834.60. This is significant progress because on April 1, 2019 the mortgage principal balance was \$151,234.48!!

A second round of PPP Loans was made available to small business; however, All Faiths did not qualify to apply for a second loan. We anticipate that the first loan will be forgiven

In January, \$200 was collected for The Change Program, Alliance for the Arts (Racial Justice).

The Stewardship Committee wrapped up the 2021/2022 pledge campaign on Founders' Day, reaching 85 percent of its goal. They did a great job reaching out to the congregation with video clips for five weeks during services. The video can be found on our You Tube channel and our website. Let's give them a big round of applause for a job well done!

♥ FOR THE HOMELESS NEWS

by Barbara McFarlane

March Share the Plate will be donated to Angel Wings. This is the Cape Coral home that provides temporary housing to women 18-64 years old who wish to gain employment and work toward self-sufficiency. All Faiths' members and this team have supported Angel Wings for two years through Share the Plate, donations of linens, money, bikes, and volunteer time.

The Grace Church Thrift store at 2415 Grand Ave. (near the old City of Palms Park on Edison), funds their programs that serve people who are homeless. Next time you're cleaning out closets and cupboards, consider bringing your donations to this small thrift store. Hours are Thursday-Saturday 9:30-2:30pm.

Happy Anniversary! Our Heart for the Homeless Team is three years old.

The mission of the All Faiths' Hearts for the Homeless Team is to educate and engage our congregation on the issues and obstacles facing those without stable housing.

We provide volunteer services and/or tangible goods to organizations that share our commitment to helping people achieve self-sufficiency.

If this interests you or you'd like to learn more, please join a monthly meeting via Zoom, or contact one of our current team members for more information. New ideas, knowledge and team members are always welcome.

Barbara Gaiser, speechmkr@gmail.com

Lewis Robinson, lewrob@comcast.net

Eileen Moran, eileengmo@gmail.com

Judy Alberda, judyalberda@yahoo.com

Barb McFarlane, mcfarlanebar@gmail.com



*May your troubles be less, your blessings be more,
and nothing but happiness come through your door.*

ACMA MARCH CONCERTS

The ACMA Facebook page is updated every Saturday with YouTube or music links from our scheduled artist for that date. Also check out new concerts outdoors at the Alliance for the Arts.

March 20th - FaceBook Live Stream with Annie and Rod Capps/Eileen Kozloff opens

<https://www.facebook.com/Americana-Community-Music-Association-186132008151817>

March 28 - ACMA@The Alliance: Roy Book Binder
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/outdoor-concert-with-roy-book-binder-tickets-137445672707?aff&fbclid=IwAR1sXrCNB0D0UJ3DogKc4h87KjPcjNrgtV9jDNZz4z2w91IkLiMD40EAeAc>

CONGRATULATIONS LISA LEONHARDT!

Guild Service Award Recipient



Lisa is in the little box, bottom right!

Congratulations to our very talented *Lisa Leonhardt*. Lisa was awarded the Florida Storytelling Associations's Guild Service Award on January 29, 2021, which took place virtually at the annual Florida Storytelling Festival. After being presented with the award for her work with the Tamiami Tale Tellers, SW Florida's local storytelling guild, she told an original story to the people who were watching. The Tamiami Tale Tellers is a small group of storytellers who enjoy performing and sharing all kinds of stories!

BOOK CLUB - EVERY 2ND MONDAY



The Book Club is meeting via Zoom on the 2nd Monday of the month at 12:00 p.m. If you are on the Book Club email list, you will receive a Zoom link prior to the meeting. If you would like to join the Book Club or check to see if you are on the list, please contact Diane Chernow at dianecher@comcast.net.



2021 Registration Information

Registration for virtual GA 2021 is **\$200 per person**. Financial support for registration as well as a payment plan are available. General Assembly registrants receive access to the 2021 Online Participation Portal, including live, semi-live, and on-demand video content, the virtual exhibit hall, chat features, support, and a (**new!**) GA mobile app.

[Adult Registration](#)
[Youth Registration](#)

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)
[Financial Support](#)

Registration for General Assembly is the same for delegates and non-delegates. [How a congregation's delegates are determined](#). Registrations must be for specific individuals and are non-transferable. Each registrant should have a unique email address to facilitate logon to the Online Participation Portal. Once registered, you will be sent email confirmation from generalassembly@uua.org. You may cancel a GA registration by replying to your registration confirmation or contacting the GA Registrar at generalassembly@uua.org. The cancellation fee is \$50 per person.

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

by Mary Corrigan, Director of Youth RE

Greetings from Youth RE!

In February, Youth RE discussed putting our faith into action. Using the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a starting point, we explored youth activism during the Civil Rights Movement, including many historical events that have not been covered in traditional school curricula. Reactions regarding lack of representation in popular texts included:

- “Children can be just as good at some things (such as protesting), sometimes even better, than adults.”
- “Children are often more open-minded than adults. For example, white children probably wanted to play with black children, but their parents didn’t allow it.”

The top five issues that interest our youth are:

- Racial Justice
- Animal Rights
- Climate Change
- LGBTQ Rights
- Health Care for All



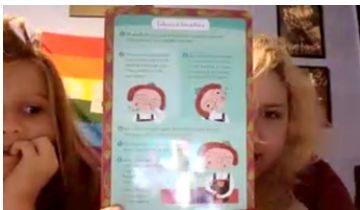
Some barriers they identified to participating more actively in promoting these issues:

- Meeting times conflict with school schedules.
- Covid-19 prevents in-person gatherings.
- Groups of like-minded youth are not prevalent.

In the coming weeks, we are going to learn about the history, current state, and future of youth activism and explore ways in which they can advocate for the issues that matter most to them.

Relative to meeting our youths’ needs, we will be changing our Wednesday evening meetings to Thursday evenings beginning in March. Many of our youth have activities that meet on Wednesdays. It will be at the same time (7:00 – 8:30 p.m.) and will continue to meet over Zoom. Members of the congregation are welcome to ‘drop by’ any Thursday during the first part of the meeting. Please contact me via email (mary837@gmail.com) so that I can send you the Zoom link.

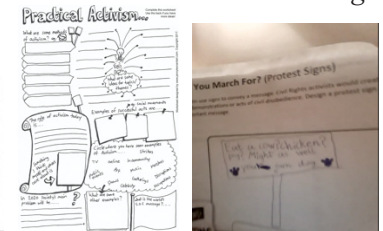
Sunday Mornings: Mindfulness



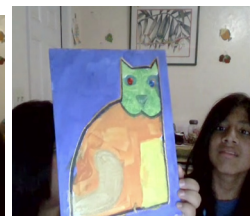
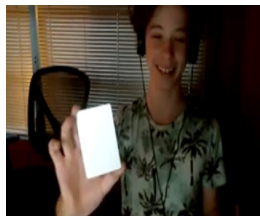
Lessons



Planning & Action: Our Own Protest Signs



Thursday Evenings: Reaching Out



Sharing Some Magic, Artwork, and Recipes

Youth Zoom Gatherings have moved to Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Congregants are invited to visit for the first half-hour, please contact Mary Corrigan at mary837@gmail.com for the link.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN ENDS AT 85% OF GOAL

by Marsha Bates, Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee thanks all who have demonstrated that they are "All In for All Faiths" by submitting a pledge form. As of February 21st, the amount pledged (\$177,501) had reached 85% of the pledge goal (\$209,000). Although this year's Annual Pledge Drive officially ended on February 14th, additional pledges will continue to be welcomed. If your pledge has not been received yet, you may get a call from a Committee member.

We owe a huge thanks to Joseph Brauer for the videos he assembled and to all the Members and Friends who shared their reasons for supporting All Faiths. The videos, which can be accessed through the All Faiths website or on our You Tube, remind us why All Faiths is important to us and to the community. That is why we need to meet our goal!



MARCH'S ODYSSEY JAN GUARDIANO

Monday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m.
(Check your emails for the Zoom link.)



Jan, and her late husband Joe, were founding members of All Faiths. Jan and Joe worked for the State Department and were career diplomats. Jan set up our first website and worked on All Faiths' newsletters and directories. Please join us to learn more about Jan. Hosted by Rev. CJ with Q&A to follow.

All Faiths Unitarian Congregation

2756 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Phone: (239) 226-0900 – Email: office@allfaithsuum.org – Website: www.allfaithsuum.org

Executive Board: Chris Stotler, Chair; Rachel Spiller, Vice Chair; John Conrad, Treasurer; Ed Elrod, Secretary; Diane Cartwright, Past Chair.

Directors: Marge DiGalbo, Peter Erickson, Annely Hudanick, Eileen Moran, Linda Runkle.

Staff: Regina Kilmartin, Administrator; Joseph Brauer, Music Director; Joe Gayton, Sexton.

Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Wayne Robinson

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Proofreaders

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Joyce Ramay

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Joyce Ramay

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Youth Religious Education

Mary Corrigan

Member Services

Fran Way

Greeters

Marsha Bates

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Michael Pierre

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Climate Action Team

Joan Marshall

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Heart for the Homeless

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Racial Justice Team

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L.I.F.E.

Marsha Bates, Donalie Benyak,

Lana Cowell

McGregor Clinic

Joyce Schaffer

Mano a Mano

Charlotte Blitt

Operation Joy & Solos Group

Annely Hudanick

Minister: Rev. CJ McGregor - Cell: 508-736-3361



Deadline for the **April** Issue of *Connections* is **March 18**

(Brief announcements may be accepted later, and will be included *if* space and time permit.)



OFFICE HOURS: 9am to 4pm, Monday thru Thurs;
9am to 12pm, Friday and Sunday.
Congregational Administrator: Regina Kilmartin