

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation



## Ormond Beach

### A NOTE FROM OUR MINISTER: Growing Edges

Emergence is the worship theme for April, which may recall images of budding branches and crocuses pushing their tender heads up through the snow. Emergence may remind us of the greening of trees, the sound of birdsong and all the attributes of spring. Indeed, emergence can mean the resurrection of life after a cold, dormant winter. In a spiritual sense, emergence can mean growth, transformation, and change.

As human beings, we all experience change. We grow physically— we mature emotionally— we develop spiritually. In many cases, growth can be painful and trying. How many of us would like to relive our teen years? Yet, I think we would all agree that traversing the teen years is necessary for our journey to adulthood. If we didn't go through that pain of stretching physically and emotionally, we would have serious problems navigating adulthood. What is more, we must live each stage of our lives fully and then leave it behind, as with the seasons which we can never relive. The same could be said for most of the ages and stages of our lives; therefore, we would do well to pay attention to our growing edges.

I believe institutions experience ages and stages, as well, especially congregations. After all, congregations are people and therefore living systems. As a living system, if we don't grow, change, stretch, and develop then we cease, literally, to live. We all know of congregations which have "died out" because of the inability to grow and change.

I think we at UUCOB are paying attention to the growing edges of our congregation. Institutionally we are not only growing in membership but also stretching and growing in who we are as a congregation. For example, we've been examining how well we welcome the stranger to our congregation and how we can become even more inclusive to marginalized people such as the LGBTQ community. We have also been grappling with major institutional changes at the UUA level which has compelled us to look at our own relationship to racism and oppression. In that vein, the Life Long Learning program bravely took on the subject of White Supremacy Culture and how it does or doesn't play out in our own.

#### The Growing Edge

*by Howard Thurman*

All around us worlds are dying and new worlds  
are being born;  
All around us life is dying and life is being born.  
The fruit ripens on the tree;  
The roots are silently at work in the darkness of  
the earth  
Against a time when there shall be new leaves,  
fresh blossoms, green fruit.  
Such is the growing edge!  
It is the extra breath from the exhausted lung,  
The one more thing to try when all else has  
failed,  
The upward reach of life when weariness closes  
in upon all endeavor.  
This is the basis of hope in moments of despair,  
The incentive to carry on when times are out of  
joint  
And people have lost their reason; the source of  
confidence  
When worlds crash and dreams whiten into ash.  
The birth of the child—life's most dramatic  
answer to death—  
This is the Growing Edge incarnate.  
Look well to the growing edge.

And finally, we are in the midst of Building Beloved Community in our own congregation through developing a Covenant of Right Relations to guide us in honoring each other's beliefs and ways of being in the world.

I am proud and excited about the ways in which we are looking well to the growing edge as Howard Thurman puts it. How we are reaching upward when the world wearies us, how we maintain our hope in the face of uncertain times, and how we initiate change in order to be alive and relevant into the future. I hope you are proud and excited, too.

Yours in faith,  
Rev. Kathy

## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN—In Case You Have Nothing to Do**

Now that our new pastor, Rev. Kathy, is settling in, our congregation has become an even busier place than ever. So much happens here at UU that it's practically mind boggling just to keep in touch with what it all is and how it all works. Thanks goodness our office assistant, Cathy Jackson, keeps an accurate calendar!

(By the way, that calendar along with a wealth of other information, is on the home page of our web site, [UUOrmond.org](http://UUOrmond.org), so you can check it any time you need to. It's also in this Jotter newsletter every month.)

Of course, the core events, those that bring most of us together at once, happen on Sunday. Most of our 130 or so members attend our morning service. Nearly every Sunday we welcome visitors from all over as well as local people wanting to check us out. And Sunday at the Ormond Beach UU would be incomplete without the pre-service discussion group which has thrived under Phil Elliott's leadership for nearly 50 years.

The Board of Trustees and six of our standing committees hold regular monthly meetings. To this we add meetings for many ad hoc committees and sub-committees.

The Alliance meets for lunch once a month to help organize our outreach to local charitable organizations and plan and execute fund raisers for those and for our congregation.

Ann Matteson and Jim Hendra meet weekly to record and make our bank deposits. Our treasurer, Amanda Attri, brings her daughter, Anya, with her every week as she pays our bills and reconciles our money accounts.

Kurtland Davies and his crew works on cleaning up our dune and keeping our grounds tidy every week.

Our Choir practices nearly every week and the Hospitality Committee prepares for a pot luck dinner every month.

Life Long Learning plans an educational experience twice a month, and sometimes more. To this, we have added a large number of Soul Matters groups with monthly thematic studies.

And, if that's not enough, we have a Mah Jongg group, a writing group, and a spiritual growth group, and a women's group that meet regularly, sponsored by UU members, but welcoming all.

Finally, we have the rentals—yoga, three meditation groups, and Narcotics Anonymous, the latter holding three weekly meetings at our facility.

Believe it or not we're still open to and hoping for new ideas. Bring them to the board if you have them. And we always can use volunteers. So, take a deep breath and dive in wherever you wish. You will find here people who care.

--Joan Thate

## Upcoming Pulpit Presentations—

### April 1— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, Easter Sunrise and our 10:30 Worship Services

**6:30 am**— Easter Sunrise Service on Ormond Beach across from Betty's A1A Cafe. Bring a chair and a jacket.

### **10:30 am**— “Emergence: Wandering as Transformation”

Within the ancient Hebrew story of escape from slavery in Egypt and deliverance to freedom in the Promised Land are themes of transformation common to all human lives.

Service Leader: Denise Carter

### April 8—Dr. Ted Mashburn, “Strange Things Happen on the Sabbath: Shabbat Shalom”

Mashburn, long-time professor at the University of Mobile, serves as Chairman of the Humanities Division, and is currently Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He will discuss ideas in Luke: 13-14 “But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and thou shalt be blessed, for they cannot recompense thee. For thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.”

Service Leader: Rita Scheeler

### April 15— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, “Emergence, Part I: A Theology for Our Time”

We'll explore a non-dualistic concept of God, the Universe, and Everything via Quantum Physics and Process Theology. Based on the book, *A God That Could Be Real* - not as complicated as it sounds, honest!

Service Leader: Bill Ternent

### April 22—Earth Day Celebration— “Healthy Hammock, Healthy UU”

Over the years, what is happening in our little woodland backyard reflects what is happening in our U.U. community and vice-versa. Kurtland Davies shares a few ideas about how to keep them both healthy.

Service Leader: Gaia Davies

### April 29— Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, “Emergence, Part II: A Theology for Our Time”

Service Leader: Chris Gruner

## THE ALLIANCE—Spring Happenings

Our UU Alliance is looking forward to the last two events we are sponsoring during the spring season. Our Easter brunch will take place on April 1<sup>st</sup> and our Alliance members are busy buying ingredients and planning to cook for this popular Easter celebration. If you haven't already got your ticket for this extra special brunch, please sign up on the list on the back table. You won't need to pay before Easter Sunday, but we need to know how many folks will be coming. Children eat for free, of course, and the cost for adults is only \$15, but that includes a delicious mimosa.

On April 15<sup>th</sup> we will host our last Soup Lunch, with all proceeds going to FAITH. You can learn more about this special interfaith social action organization elsewhere in this issue of the Jotter.

On May 10<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating another happy and successful year of serving our congregation and the community by going out for lunch at Caribbean Jack's in Daytona Beach. Please plan to join us then.

We are always looking for new members, so come join us at our monthly meetings. We have changed our meeting dates beginning in April. Rather than meeting on the second Thursday of the month, we will be meeting on the first Thursday of each month at noon.

--Jeanne Young

## SHARE-THE-PLATE WITH FAITH—Promoting Social Justice

Our Share-the-Plate partner for April 15<sup>th</sup> is FAITH or Fighting Against Injustice Toward Harmony. Our own UU has partnered with 30-plus local congregations in working together to promote social justice in our community. We have been a member of FAITH for 17 years, and as one of its founding members, we will continue, with your help, to be a strong supporter. FAITH has been instrumental in making night bus service available, implementing mental health programs in the jails, and more recently getting approval for a homeless shelter to be built that would also provide social services to the homeless. FAITH has been a leader in promoting assigning civil citations instead of criminal penalties for young people who have committed nonviolent crimes. **Please be generous when on April 15<sup>th</sup> when the we share our offering with FAITH.**

--Leigh Montgomery

## CIVIL CITATIONS—Social Justice for Children

Thousands of children, some as young as four years old, are arrested in Florida for misdemeanor charges every year. Many of those arrested do not go to court but their arrest record stays with them for the rest of their lives. This arrest record can prevent the child from enlisting in the military, getting a job or going to college.

If instead of an arrest a civil citation is issued it will greatly enhance the child's future and reduce the chances of a child entering a life of crime. You are invited to learn about juvenile justice by attending the presentation, "Direct File and Civil Citations-Protecting Our Youth" on **Tuesday, April 10, 2018, 5:30 - 6:45 PM** (at the Daytona Beach Police Headquarters, 129 Valor Blvd, Daytona Beach. The headquarters are located off of Williamson Boulevard, East on Mason Avenue then the first right is Valor.

--Harry R. White, Social Justice Committee Chair

## FAITH in April—Two Important Dates

UUCOB members have two important dates to write down and meetings to attend this month:

**RALLY TO ACTION— April 9<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. at the Epiphany Catholic Church, 201 Lafayette St. Port Orange

**ACTION ASSEMBLY—April 30<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m., Peabody Auditorium, 600 Auditorium Drive, Daytona. This is the one meeting that no one should miss. Remember our strength is in our numbers!

The local *News Journal* has reported on how the opening date of the new homeless shelter "continues to stretch out over the horizon." The 100-bed shelter is being built on a city-owned 626-acre site near the Volusia County Branch Jail that was recently annexed into the city limits. The 10-acre site has been cleared and a temporary electrical supply has been installed as well as a new entrance from International Speedway Boulevard. Work is underway on a lift station and water supply. All the permits are in place except the building permits. However, the schematic design work is only 30% complete. Estimates suggest this preliminary work will be completed by July of this year. Vertical construction is set to start in September. Thus, the Homeless Shelter, originally projected to open by the end of 2017, is now predicted to be open for business by July, 2019.

On the brighter side, a new program is underway to permanently house the homeless once they have completed programs to improve their lives including mental health and drug addiction programs and job training. The Shelter's board of directors voted unanimously to pursue an agreement with Soldier On, a Massachusetts based non-profit that provides permanent housing. The group is self-funded and eyeing land on George Engram Boulevard.

FAITH'S new Education and Youth Committee will announce its new policy initiative at the April 9<sup>th</sup> Rally to Action Meeting at Epiphany Catholic Church. According to our findings, Volusia County Schools arrest and suspend more students per capita than almost anywhere in the nation. Children with learning disabilities in our county are twice as likely to experience harsh punishments such as suspension or arrest as their peers. Minority students are twice as likely as their white classmates. Once a suspension is reported, it leaves a student ten times more likely to drop out of school. The arrest stays on a child's criminal record into adulthood. The new FAITH policy initiative seeks to correct these injustices.

--Leigh Montgomery

## **LIFE LONG LEARNING— Programs for April**

The Life Long Learning programs for 2018 will be varied and include topics related to philosophy, history, the arts as well as science and education. Each of these lecture/discussion style programs include time for audience questions and comments.

### **“Taking on The Epicurean Riddle” —10:00 to 11:30 am on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

If God is willing to prevent evil but not able, then he is not omnipotent.

If God is able to prevent evil, but not willing, then he is not good.

If God is both able and willing to prevent evil, then why is there evil?

If God is neither able nor willing to prevent evil, then why call him God?

Dr. Ted Mashburn, Department Chair of Humanities at the University of Mobile, will “take on” the Epicurean Riddle, which is a major challenge to concepts of God. Professor Mashburn is well equipped for this task with an academic and professional background combining religion/spirituality (e.g. Baptist pastor positions) and philosophy/theology (e.g. Master of Theology degree, University of Edinburgh and Doctorate of Philosophy, Oxford University).

### **“The Soul and Beauty of Islamic Spain” —4:00 to 5:30 pm on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**

Martha Brandt has been engaged in a decade-long study of Islamic art in museums and cultural sites around the world. This program, using a presentation-discussion format, will focus on La Mezquita in Cordoba and La Alhambra in Granada, Spain. These renowned monuments of the Andalusia region offer beautiful art and engaging histories relating to more than eight centuries of Islamic influence in Spain.

Dr. Brandt, a retired college professor of French, comes from a life filled with art, music, literature, spiritual quest, and worldwide travel. Her experiences with these fascinating sites in Spain have been among the highlights

### **Are Unions Still Necessary to Maintain a Middle Class? —4:00 to 5:30 pm on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

Andrew Spar will lead a discussion about how important unions are to the viability of the American Middle Class. Labor unions have brought us the 40-hour work week, child labor laws, retirement security, equity in the work place, and much more. In the past couple of decades, we have seen efforts to undermine unions and American workers. Good paying union jobs in America have disappeared either through automation or by jobs moving overseas. As jobs disappeared, union membership declined, as did the middle class. Today, employees are less likely to have job security, pensions, health insurance and annual salary increases that keep up with the cost of inflation. Andrew Spar is President of the Volusia United Educators and Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida AFL-CIO. Andrew graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in Music Education, and he has taught in Volusia County Schools for 23 years.

--Tom Hilburn

Living our UU Values—

# March for Our Lives

Daytona Beach, March 24, 2018



April 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am</p> <p>Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am</p> <p><b>Easter Brunch:</b> 11:45-12:45 pm</p> <p>Tai Chi: 4-5 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm</p> <p>Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Mah Jongg: 10 am-noon</p> <p>Woman's Group: 12- 1 pm</p> <p>Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Worship Mtg.: 11 am-noon</p> <p>Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Caring Mtg. 10 -11:00 am</p> <p>Democracy Now: 10:15 am-noon</p> <p>Alliance: noon-2 pm</p> <p>Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Friday Potluck 6-8:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Life Long Learning: Dr. Mashburn 10- 11:30 am</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am</p> <p>Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am</p> <p>Tai Chi: 4-5 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm</p> <p>Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Writers Group: 10 am-noon</p> <p>Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon</p> <p>Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Life Long Learning: 4-5:30 pm</p> <p>Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Democracy Now: 10:15- noon</p> <p>Finance Mtg.: 10:30 am-noon</p> <p>Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am</p> <p>Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am (Share-the-Plate)</p> <p>Soup lunch: 11:45-12:45 pm</p> <p>Tai Chi: 4-5 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm</p> <p>Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Mah Jongg: 10 am-noon</p> <p>Woman's Group: 12- 1 pm</p> <p>Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Democracy Now: 10:15- noon</p> <p>Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm</p> <p>Board Mtg: 5:30-7 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Exploring Metaphysics: 6-7 pm</p> <p><b>Jotter articles due</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am</p> <p>Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am</p> <p>Tai Chi: 4-5 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm</p> <p>Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Writers Group: 10 am-noon</p> <p>Mah Jongg: 10 am -noon</p> <p>Woman's Group: 12-1pm</p> <p>Meditation: 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Life Long Learning: 4-5:30 pm</p> <p>Choir rehearsal: 6-7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Democracy Now: 10:15- noon</p> <p>Membership Mtg: 2:30-4 pm</p> <p>Spiritual Growth: 4:30-6 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Movie Night: 7-9 pm</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Discussion Group: 9:15-10:15 am</p> <p>Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 am</p> <p><b>Congregational Annual Mtg. 11:45-1:00 pm</b></p> <p>Tai Chi: 4-5 pm</p> <p>N Anon: 7-8 pm</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Yoga: 6:15-7:45 pm</p> <p>Guided Meditation w. Ashkhen: 7- 9 pm</p>					

**Upcoming Sunday Services**

**Theme for April: Emergence**

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Presenter:</u>	<u>Service Leader:</u>
April 1:	“Emergence: Wandering as Transformation” (Easter Sunday Sunrise 6:30 service & 10:30 worship service)	--Rev. Kathy Rickey	--Denise Carter
April 8:	“Strange Things Happen on the Sabbath”	--Dr. Ted Mashburn	--Rita Scheeler
April 15:	“Emergence, Part I: A Theology for Our Time” Share-the-Plate with FAITH	--Rev. Kathy Rickey	--Bill Ternent
April 22:	Earth Day Celebration with Kurtland Davies and the congregation		--Gaia Davies
April 29:	“Emergence, Part II: A Theology for Our Time” Congregational meeting immediately following the service	--Rev. Kathy Rickey	--Chris Gruner

**April Birthdays**



**The Jotter**

**April 2018**

**Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Ormond Beach**

Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey, Minister: [revk2rickey@gmail.com](mailto:revk2rickey@gmail.com)  
 RE teachers: Debra Hanson/Mary Wentzel: (contact UU Office)  
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 Office hours: M/W: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. & T/Th: 2:00 to 6:30 p.m.  
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Joan Thate, President: [jbthate@gmail.com](mailto:jbthate@gmail.com)  
 Carolyn West: Jotter Editor (386) 672-9352  
 Website: <http://www.uuormond.org>  
 Children's' RE on Sunday 10:15 -11:45 a.m.  
 Discussion Group meets Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

**Sunday Service: 10:30 -11:30 a.m.**